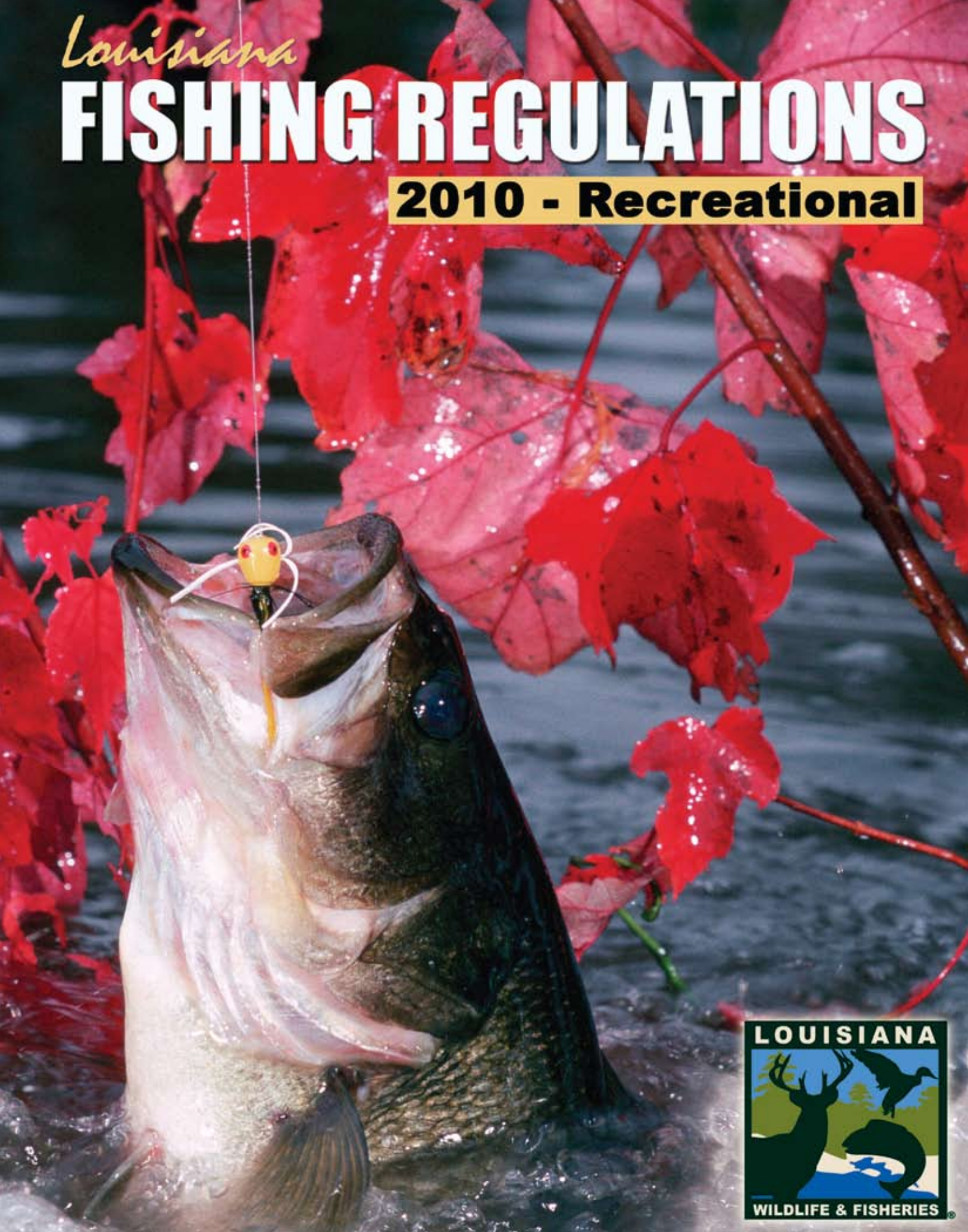


Louisiana

FISHING REGULATIONS

2010 - Recreational



Bryant O. Hammett, Jr.

Vidalia

Conference & Convention Center



112 Front Street / Vidalia, LA 71373 / (318) 336-9934 (O) / (318) 336-9998 (F)



Vidalia is a community built on history, yet moving toward the future.

Concordia Parish is a sportsman's paradise, offering hunting and fishing equal to any you'll find. Bayou Cocodrie National Wildlife Refuge, Red Rivers/Three Rivers Management Area, camping areas maintained by the state of Louisiana - all provide outdoor activity to satisfy the sportsman.

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Under Construction**

If you are interested in booking a meeting or family gatherings with us,
call Sheri Rabb at 318-336-9934.

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DISCLAIMER

This publication is not an official copy of the laws in effect and should not be utilized or relied upon as such. It does represent an attempt by the publisher to present, as a public service, a partial summary of some of the laws in effect at the time of the printing of this publication. Substantive changes to the law may very well occur following the printing of this publication. For these reasons, the accuracy of the information contained within this publication cannot be guaranteed and the reader is cautioned that it is his responsibility to apprise himself of the laws in effect at any given time. These laws include those contained within the Louisiana Revised Statutes, particularly Title 56, the official regulations of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, federal laws, and any local or parish ordinances. State laws can be viewed on the legislative website: www.legis.state.la.us/.

Fishing regulations on state Wildlife Management Areas and Refuges may differ from those contained in this pamphlet. Consult the Wildlife Management Area Regulations portion of this pamphlet or contact the nearest Department office for WMA regulations.

This public document was published at a total cost of \$?????. 300,000 copies of this public document were published in the first printing at a cost of \$. This document was published by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA to inform Louisiana residents and non-residents as to the rules and regulations governing the fishing resources of the State of Louisiana. This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31. Printing of this material was purchased in accordance with the provisions of Title 43 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

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latest regulations visit us online at
www.wlf.louisiana.gov.**

Cover photo: Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

**HELP STOP
POACHING**

REPORT GAME VIOLATIONS

Operation Game Thief

1-800-442-2511

24 hours a day - 7 days a week

RESIDENT RECREATIONAL FISHING FEES		
Hook and Line (cane pole)	\$2.50	
Basic Fishing	\$9.50	
Saltwater License (Basic Fishing required)	\$5.50	
Senior Fish/Hunt ¹	\$5.00	
Charter Passenger License (3-day) ²	\$5.00	
LA Sportsman's Paradise License ³	\$100.00	
LA Disabled Basic Fishing ⁴	\$2.50	
LA Disabled Saltwater ⁴	\$2.50	
NON-RESIDENT (NR) RECREATIONAL FISHING FEES		
Basic Fishing Season	\$60.00	
Basic Fish Trip - 1 day	\$5.00	
Saltwater Season	\$30.00	
Saltwater Trip - 1 day ⁵	\$17.50	
Charter Passenger (3-day) ²	\$5.00	
Charter Skiff (3-day) ⁶	\$30.00	
MILITARY RECREATIONAL FISHING FEES		
Resident/NR Military Basic Fishing	\$9.50	
Resident/NR Military Saltwater	\$5.50	
Resident Non-Active LA National Guard Fish/Hunt	\$50.00	
RECREATIONAL FISHING GEAR FEES		
	Res.	NR
Crab Traps (limit 10)	\$15	\$60
Slat Traps (limit 5)	\$20	\$80
Trawls - up to 16 feet	\$25	\$100
Trawls - 16 feet to 25 feet	\$80	\$320
Oyster Tong (per tong)	\$5	\$20
Crawfish Traps (limit 35)	\$15	\$60
Pipes/Drums (limit 5)	\$10	\$40
Cans/Buckets (limit 5)	\$10	\$40
Wire Nets (limit 5) ⁷	\$20	\$80
Hoop Nets (limit 5) ⁷	\$20	\$80
LIFETIME LICENSE FEES		
Lifetime Fishing - age 5-13	\$200	
Lifetime Fishing - age 14 and up	\$300	
Lifetime Hunt/Fish - age 0-4	\$200	
Lifetime Hunt/Fish - age 5-13	\$300	
Lifetime Hunt/Fish - age 14 and up	\$500	
NR Lifetime Hunt/Fish	\$3,000	
Lifetime Resident Senior Hunt/Fish (60 or older)	\$50	
Lifetime Fishing Gear	10 times annual fee per gear type	

Recreational Fishing and Hunting licenses may be purchased by phone toll-free at 1-888-765-2602 or online at www.la.wildlifelicense.com. Methods of payment are Visa or MasterCard. An authorization number for immediate use will be provided and licenses will be mailed to each licensee. A convenience fee is assessed.

¹ **Senior Fish/Hunt License:** Any resident who turned 60 years of age on or after June 1, 2000 must obtain a senior fishing/hunting license to hunt or fish. This license is in lieu of basic and saltwater fishing, basic hunting, big game, bow, primitive firearms, LA duck license, turkey stamp and WMA hunting permit. It **does not** include special gear such as trawls, crab traps, crawfish traps, hoop nets, etc.

² Persons who fish from a charter vessel in saltwater areas of the state, with a licensed guide on board at all times, may possess a Charter Passenger License at a cost of \$5.00 that is valid for 3 consecutive days.

³ **Sportsman's Paradise License:** Includes Basic and Saltwater Fishing, Basic and Big Game Hunting, Bow, Primitive Firearms, Turkey, LA Duck and WMA Hunting Permit, and all recreational gear licenses (EXCEPT recreational trawls greater than 16 feet in length).

⁴ **LA Disabled Fishing and Saltwater:** See page 6.

⁵ **All inclusive.** No other license required.

⁶ Non-residents fishing under the direction of a charter operation in a licensed charter skiff in saltwater areas of the state may possess a non-resident charter skiff 3-day license at a cost of \$30.00 and shall be valid for three consecutive days.

⁷ **Recreational wire nets and recreational hoop nets** shall be used only in the geographical areas located north of a line that follows Interstate 10 from where it crosses the Louisiana/ Mississippi state line westward to its junction with Interstate Highway 12 near Slidell, along Interstate Highway 12 westward to its junction with Interstate Highway 10 in the city of Baton Rouge, and then along Interstate 10 from the city of Baton Rouge westward to where it crosses the Louisiana/Texas state line.

Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior and U.S. Department of Commerce strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmentally assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or handicap. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of federal assistance should write to: Director, Office for Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington D.C. 20240.

LICENSE DETAILS

Licenses are required for all persons taking or possessing fish.

RECREATIONAL LICENSES

All recreational licenses are valid from the date of purchase and expire on June 30 each year. New year licenses begin selling June 1 each year. In addition to other bona fide residency requirements, a Louisiana driver's license or Louisiana ID Card (LA ID accepted only from persons who do not drive) issued by the Department of Public Safety is required to purchase resident recreational hunting and fishing licenses.

Persons who obtain resident licenses when not complying with the bona fide residency requirements as stated in the definition section (page 16) will be subject to criminal and/or civil sanctions.

Title 56, Section 302.1.C.(1) requires that all recreational anglers fishing south of the "saltwater line" for saltwater species have in their possession a Louisiana saltwater angler's license **IN ADDITION TO** a basic Louisiana fishing license **EXCEPT** those persons otherwise exempted. (See **Exceptions and Exemptions**) All regulations apply regardless of where the fish is taken.

A recreational fisherman must purchase and have in possession a valid basic recreational fishing license to possess fish in Louisiana waters or to use the following:

1. Bow and arrow
2. A barbed or barbless spear
3. Frog gig/catcher
4. Scuba Gear
5. Hook and Line (trot line)
6. Cast net with a radius not to exceed 8 ft. 6 in.
7. Rod and Reel

MILITARY RECREATIONAL LICENSES

Any person who possesses a military identification card that signifies that he is currently on active duty with any one of the armed forces of the United States, including the National Guard, or the spouse or dependent of such person, may be issued a license for hunting or recreational fishing in Louisiana for the same fee as that required of Louisiana residents.

Military licenses are valid only during that time when the licensee is on active duty in the armed forces of the United States. The military identification card or dependent card **and** the appropriate license must be on the licensee's person at all times when he is engaged in hunting and fishing activities.

Any Louisiana resident who submits proof of his status as an active member of the Louisiana National Guard or any reserve component of the United States armed forces, though not currently on active duty, may purchase in lieu of basic and saltwater fishing, basic hunting, big game, bow, primitive firearms, LA duck, turkey and WMA hunting permit, a license for \$50 to fish and hunt in Louisiana. Submit completed application with a copy of the applicant's:

1. Louisiana drivers license;
2. military identification card;
3. original letter from their commanding officer verifying that they are in "good standing" with the Louisiana National Guard or United States armed forces; and
4. money order for \$50.

Mail to: LDWF, Attention Sports License, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898. The application form is available online at: www.wlf.louisiana.gov/licenses or by calling 225-765-2887.

LIFETIME LICENSES

Lifetime Licenses are issued in lieu of Basic Fishing, Saltwater Fishing, Basic Hunting, Big Game, Bow, Primitive Firearms, LA Duck, Turkey and WMA hunting permit.

Applications are accepted by mail or in person at the Baton Rouge office only. **Allow six weeks processing time.** Lifetime license applications do not authorize hunting or fishing prior to receipt of the license document. The **original license document must be** in licensee's possession to legally hunt or fish. Applicants are required to have lived in Louisiana for the immediate 12 months prior to making application to qualify for resident rates. Mandatory documents required with completed application are a valid Louisiana driver's license

issued a minimum of 12 months (no substitutions) **AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

1. Louisiana voter's registration card
2. Louisiana vehicle registration
3. Two previous years state tax filing, stamped by Department of Revenue & Taxation.

RECREATIONAL GEAR LICENSES

Recreational anglers ages 16 and over using any of the recreational gear must, in addition to their basic fishing license, purchase the applicable gear license. If fishing in saltwater areas of the state, a saltwater fishing license is also required. Lifetime fishing license holders must also purchase a gear license to use recreational gear.

EXCEPTIONS & EXEMPTIONS

Persons younger than 16 years of age and residents who were born prior to June 1, 1940 and have lived in the state for two years prior to application are not required to obtain the following licenses: Basic and Saltwater Fishing; Basic Hunting; Big Game; Bow; Primitive Firearms; LA Duck license or Turkey Stamp. Persons younger than 18 years of age are not required to have a WMA hunting permit. **PROOF OF AGE MUST BE CARRIED ON PERSON.**

Texas Reciprocal

Louisiana resident seniors, 65 years of age and older, that hold a Louisiana Fishing license are not required to purchase a Texas non-resident license to fish public waters in Texas, but shall comply with Texas law.

Louisiana resident anglers that reached age 60 before June 1, 2000 are required to possess a Louisiana fishing license when fishing in Texas, except in border waters. Louisiana residents from 17 to 64 years of age are required to purchase a non-resident fishing license when fishing in Texas, except when fishing in border waters.

Except for the Gulf of Mexico, Texas and Louisiana anglers possessing the necessary resident licenses, or

those exempted from resident licenses for their state, are allowed to fish the border waters of Louisiana and Texas without purchasing non-resident licenses. Border waters include Caddo Lake, Toledo Bend Reservoir, the Sabine River and Sabine Lake.

Texas residents 65 years of age and older may legally fish Louisiana's public waters, both freshwater and saltwater, if they possess valid Texas Resident licenses issued by Texas Parks and Wildlife. Texas residents born before September 1, 1930 must possess Texas Resident Fishing license(s) when fishing in Louisiana, except in border waters.

DISABILITY LICENSES

Resident veterans having a permanent service-connected disability classification of 50 percent or more and residents who are blind, paraplegic or multiple amputee shall upon identification and proof of disability satisfactory to the department, be issued recreational fishing and hunting licenses at no cost. This license is in lieu of Basic and Saltwater Fishing, Basic Hunting, Big Game, Bow, Primitive Firearms, LA Duck,

Turkey and WMA Hunting Permit. To qualify for this license, apply by mail or in person to the LDWF Baton Rouge office. Once approved, the license can be obtained annually from any license vendor location. Forms are available at www.wlf.louisiana.gov/licenses or by contacting Sports License at (225) 765-2887 for required forms.

A resident applicant who is totally and permanently disabled and receiving federal social security disability benefits must submit a current award letter from Social Security and a valid Louisiana driver's license. A resident who received disability retirement income from a retirement system whose members are exempt from social security pursuant to the Railroad Retirement Insurance Act (Act 45 U.S.C. 231) or because they are employees of the state or a political subdivision of the state that has not voluntarily agreed to participate in federal social security under 42 U.S.C. 418, may purchase a basic recreational fishing license for a fee of \$2.50 and a saltwater license for a fee of \$2.50. To qualify for this license,

apply by mail or in person to the LDWF Baton Rouge office. Once approved, the license can be obtained annually from any license vendor location. **This exemption does not apply to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.** Contact Sports License at (225) 765-2887 for additional information.

A resident who is required to use one or more **artificial limbs or permanent braces** for mobility or a single amputee, upon identification and proof of disability satisfactory to the department, is eligible for fishing and saltwater licenses at no cost. To qualify for this license, apply by mail or in person to the LDWF Baton Rouge office. Once approved, the license can be obtained annually from any license vendor location.

As defined in R.S. 47:463.4(E), **Mobility impaired persons** that are bona fide residents of Louisiana, in possession of valid identification and over 60 years of age may use one legal slat trap and/or one hoop net not greater than 18x8 feet, without a license, for the purpose of catching catfish for home consumption.



ENFORCEMENT OFFICES

For specific information, contact your local Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Office.

Baton Rouge	225-765-2999
Minden	318-371-3049
Monroe	318-343-2417
Alexandria	318-487-5634
Ferriday	318-757-3072
Lake Charles	337-491-2580
Opelousas	337-948-0257
New Iberia	337-373-0032
Thibodaux	985-447-0821
New Orleans	504-284-2023

The following digest includes a summary of assorted statutes contained in Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes as well as relevant rules and regulations adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to implement additional restrictions in emergency situations in order to protect fish and wildlife resources.

NOTICE TO OFFSHORE FISHERMEN

Louisiana recreational and commercial anglers fishing offshore beyond the Louisiana boundary are in federal waters and are subject to rules and regulations that may differ from those in state waters. To ensure that you are in compliance with federal regulations, you should contact the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council at 813-348-1630, toll free 1-888-833-1844 (write 2203 Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607 for informational pamphlet, e-mail: gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org; web-page: www.gulfcouncil.org); or the National Marine Fisheries Service at (727) 824-5305.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Taking or harassment of any of the following species is a violation of state and federal laws: Louisiana pearlshell mussel, inflated heelsplitter mussel, fat pocketbook mussel, pink mucket mussel, American burying beetle, sea turtles, gopher tortoise, ringed sawback turtle, dusky gopher

frog, brown pelican, bald eagle, peregrine falcon, whooping crane, Eskimo curlew, piping plover, interior least tern, ivory-billed woodpecker, red-cockaded woodpecker, Bachman's warbler, whales (blue, finback, sei, sperm), West Indian manatee, Florida panther, Louisiana black bear, pallid sturgeon, Gulf sturgeon.

PROHIBITED SPECIES

Possession of these animals is also prohibited: basking shark, white shark, bigeye sand tiger shark, sand tiger shark, whale shark, Atlantic angel shark, Caribbean sharpnose shark, smalltail shark, bignose shark, Caribbean reef shark, dusky shark, Galapagos shark, narrowtooth shark, night shark, bigeye sixgill shark, bigeye thresher shark, longfin mako, sevengill shark, sixgill shark, smalltooth sawfish, largetooth sawfish, Nassau grouper, Goliath grouper and shovelnose sturgeon.

SPECIALLY REGULATED AREAS

In addition to the general statewide fishing regulations, state wildlife refuges and wildlife management areas, national refuges, and certain local areas may have special regulations or restrictions on fishing. See page entitled "Fishing Regulations on WMAs and Refuges" in this pamphlet or contact the nearest LDWF office for WMA regulations.

For complete requirements regarding the taking of fish in federal waters obtain a "Recreational Fishing Regulations for Gulf of Mexico Federal Waters" pamphlet from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (see *contact info in previous section: "Notice to Offshore Fishermen"*)

CUSTOMER SERVICE

We at Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries are interested in providing quality customer service. If you would like to voice your comments or concerns regarding the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, please fill out a comment card when you visit one of our offices located throughout the state. You can also go to the customer service portion of LDWF's web page at: www.wlf.louisiana.gov, click on "About LDWF," then click on "Customer Service,"

and fill out a comment card. We would appreciate any comments you have to offer.

RELEASING FISH

Due to the increasing number of species with size and creel limits, anglers are required to release many of the fish they catch. If handled properly, released fish have a very good chance to live, grow and provide further opportunities for Louisiana anglers. Proper handling techniques include:

1. When angling, do not use a slack line. Set the hook immediately. This will reduce the chance of getting the hook deeper into the throat or gut, and increase chances of survival.
2. If a fish is to be released, do not let the fish become exhausted. Retrieve it quickly.
3. Do not handle the fish more than absolutely necessary and do not take it from the water if possible. Handle with a wet hand, wet towel or wet glove to minimize removal of mucus (slime). Use a landing net only when necessary. Do not let the fish flop on a dry deck or beach.
4. Use one of several tools available to remove the hook from the fish if the hook is visible and not in the gills.
5. Where practical, use barbless hooks or flatten down the barb with pliers to make hook removal easier.
6. A circle hook, used properly decreases the chance for deep hooking compared to J-style or kahle hooks.
7. If the hook is deeply buried, cut the leader close to the hook.
8. Immediately put the fish back into the water. If it is sluggish, gently hold it and move it forward and back to get water moving across the gills.

Even fish that seem in poor shape have a chance of survival. Treating them with care increases that chance. By conscientiously working to reduce stress on released fish, all anglers benefit.

PROPER CARE FOR YOUR CATCH

Louisiana's anglers are accustomed to abundant catches of bass, bream, sac-a-lait and various saltwater fish. A common problem, however, is improper handling of fish intended for the table.

Quickly ice down fish. This sounds elementary, but there are those who get swept up in the thrill of catching fish and forget this important step. Fish should be placed on ice immediately upon being caught. Be sure you have ample ice before leaving the dock.

Take full advantage of your ice. This means pouring the ice out of the bag and making sure there is a layer of ice above and below the fish.

Fish placed in an ice/water slurry chill faster than those placed on ice alone. Leave water in your ice chest as long as an adequate amount of ice stays in the water. Water temperatures will stay at or near 32 degrees Fahrenheit and help keep fish cool.

Another technique effective in keeping fish fresh on hot days or for extended periods is to gut the fish and pack the body cavities with ice. That chills the fish faster.

CAUTION: It is illegal to fillet saltwater finfish before returning to the dock. This means that those with camps in the marshes and swamps must keep their fish intact, though gutting is allowed. For the purpose of consumption at sea aboard the harvesting vessel, a person shall have no more than two pounds of finfish parts per person on board the vessel, provided that the vessel is equipped to cook such finfish and such finfish does not exceed applicable bag limits.

Bank and surf anglers often use stringers and live baskets to hold their catch. If using a stringer, put the stringer through the jaw tissue and not the gills.

Those using baskets should be aware that overcrowded fish can easily die. Anglers with live wells on their boats also should be aware of this danger.

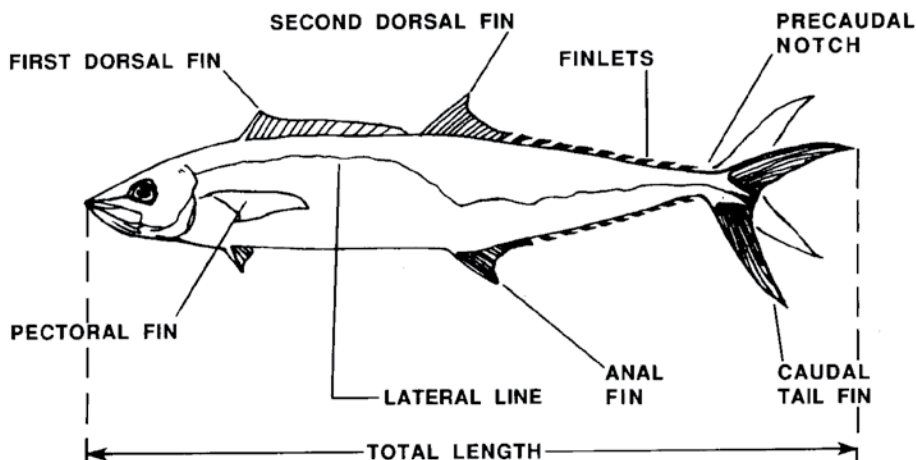
A bit of attention to details will ensure that fish stay fresh longer and taste better when cooked. It may take a few more minutes, but the result will be a more enjoyable and memorable trip.

HOW TO MEASURE A FISH

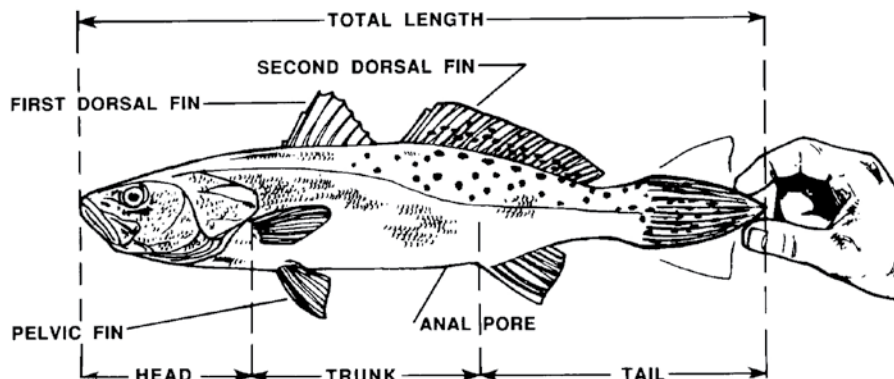
Use these guidelines to measure a fish correctly (*refer to illustrations*):

1. Place the fish on its side on a flat board with the jaw closed.
2. **Total length** - Measure in a straight line from the tip of the snout to the extreme tip of the tail fin. Adjust the tail by rotating (*Example 1*) or by squeezing (*Example 2*) to obtain the maximum length of the fish. (*illustration 1*)
3. **Fork length** - Measure in a straight line from the tip of the snout to the fork of the tail. (*illustration 2*)
4. **Lower jaw fork length** - Measure in a straight-line length from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail. (*illustration 3*)
5. **Curved fork length** - Measure from the tip of the upper jaw to fork of tail measured along the contour of the middle of the body. (*illustration 4*)
6. **Carcass length** - Measure curve from posterior edge of gill opening to anterior portion of caudal keel. (*illustration 4*)

illustration 1



Example 1. Rotating.



Example 2. Squeezing.

illustration 2

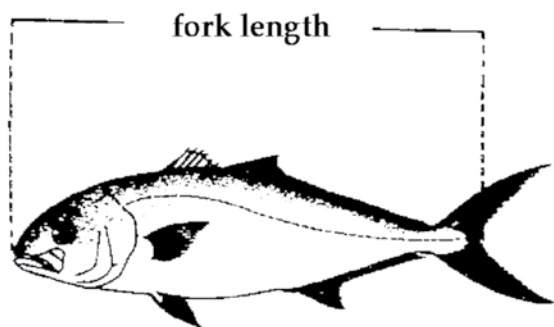


illustration 3

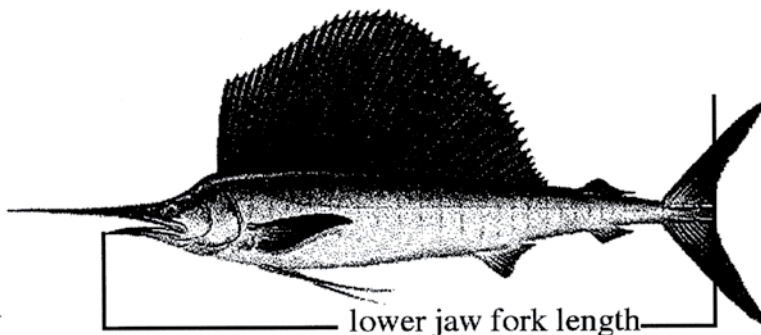
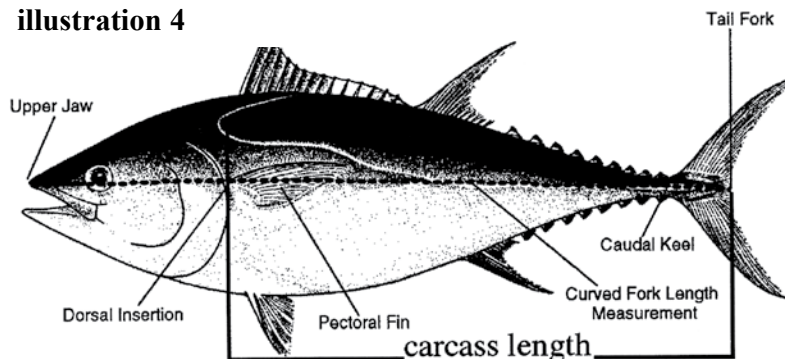


illustration 4



METHODS OF RECREATIONALLY TAKING FRESHWATER AND SALTWATER FISH

Freshwater and saltwater recreational fish may be taken by means of rod, fishing pole, hook and line, trolling line, handline, bait casting, fly casting apparatus, crawfish nets, by use of the devices known as yo-yos or trigger devices, bow and arrow, recreational hoop nets, recreational wire nets, recreational slat traps, standard spearing equipment used by a skin diver sport fishing in saltwater or fresh water when submerged in the water, recreational pipes, recreational buckets, recreational drums, recreational tires and recreational cans, and by no other means except a barbless spear or a multi-pronged barbed gig that may be used in saltwater for taking flounder. **NOTE:** Certain species of game fish may not be taken with some gear listed above. Crossbows are not a legal method.

No person shall take or possess fish taken by means of spears, poisons, stupefying substances or devices, explosives, guns, tree-topping devices, electricity or any instrument

or device capable of producing an electric current used in shocking said fish. No person shall take or possess recreational fish taken by means of snagging devices, not including bow and arrow. **Catfish** may be taken by means of snagging devices. **Paddlefish**, commonly called spoon-bill catfish, are not catfish and cannot be legally harvested by means of snagging. **Garfish** may be taken by means of spears and bows and arrows. It shall be unlawful to possess any of the prohibited instruments, weapons, substances or devices set out hereinabove with the intent to take fish.

Minnows, crawfish, shrimp and other legal bait species, not including game fish, may be taken with legal cast nets, minnow traps, dip nets and bait seines when taken in compliance with all other laws. Legal bait species may be taken with bait seines with a maximum mesh size not exceeding one-quarter inch mesh bar, one-half inch mesh stretched and thirty feet in length. Bait seines must be operated

on foot and solely by hand, without any pulley, mechanical device or mechanical assistance whatsoever. Dip nets may not exceed three feet in diameter and must be operated solely by hand, by no more than one person and without any mechanical assistance whatsoever.

Bream (*Lepomis* spp.) may not be taken as bait for sportfishing purposes in any form of trap except at Toledo Bend Reservoir, where a minnow trap not exceeding 24 inches in length and having a throat no larger than one inch by three inches may be used to take bream for non-commercial bait purposes.

Skin divers fishing for recreational purposes in fresh water, when submerged in the water and using standard spearing equipment, any person using a bow and arrow or any person using or possessing nets or traps, including recreational hoop nets, recreational slat traps, recreational pipes, recreational buckets, recreational drums, recreational tires

and recreational cans may not take or possess any game fish as defined in R.S. 56:8 (see definitions) except red drum may be taken for recreational purposes using a bow and arrow or by skin divers using standard spearing equipment while submerged in water.

Mobility impaired persons, as defined in R.S. 47:463.4(E), that are bona fide residents of Louisiana and over 60 years of age, may use a single recreational **hoop net** in any waters of the state. The net must be no greater than 18 feet by eight feet. Catch is restricted to catfish and used only for home consumption.

Recreational **wire nets** and recreational **hoop nets** shall be used only in the geographical areas located north of a line that follows Interstate Highway 10 from where it crosses the Louisiana/Mississippi state line westward to its junction with Interstate Highway 12 near Slidell, along Interstate Highway 12 westward to its junction with Interstate Highway 10 in the city of Baton Rouge, and then along Interstate Highway 10 from the city of Baton Rouge westward to where it crosses the Louisiana/Texas state line.

Recreational **crawfish traps** shall be marked with a waterproof tag, provided by the fisherman, with the name and recreational gear license number of the fisherman legibly printed on the tag. The minimum mesh size for the nets used to harvest wild crawfish shall be a hexagon of three-quarters by eleven-sixteenths of one inch. This measurement shall be from wire to wire, and any coating on the wire shall not be considered in computing the measurements.

ADDITIONAL GEAR RESTRICTIONS

In addition to the general method of take restrictions, some Louisiana waterbodies have specific gear restrictions and are listed below.

BLACK LAKE, CLEAR LAKE AND PRAIRIE LAKE

Yo-Yo restrictions

No yo-yo or trigger device with a hook in the water may be left unattended between two hours after official sunrise and one-half hour after official sunset. The device will be considered unattended if the user cannot be located and identified within the immediate vicinity of the device.

Hoop nets and wire nets

Hoop nets and wire nets must be marked with a waterproof tag with the name and address of the fisherman and his fishing license number.

CADDO LAKE

Yo-Yo restrictions

A. No resident shall have set in the water for the taking of recreational or commercial fish in Caddo Lake more than 24 yo-yos or other trigger devices. Each yo-yo or other trigger device shall be clearly marked with the name and address of the user.

B. No resident shall leave a yo-yo or trigger device unattended in Caddo Lake while it is set in the water for taking fish, except from one-half hour after official sunset to one-half hour before official sunrise. A yo-yo or trigger device shall be deemed unattended when the user cannot be immediately located for identification therewith without leaving the location of the yo-yo or trigger device.

C. No person who is a nonresident shall set in the water, use, or leave a yo-yo or trigger device at any time in Caddo Lake.

CHICOT LAKE

Yo-Yo restrictions

A. Fishing with the use of yo-yos or trigger devices shall be permitted on Chicot Lake only from Nov. 1 - March 1 of each year.

B. Not more than 24 yo-yos or trigger devices shall be allowed per boat.

C. Each yo-yo must be tagged with the name of the responsible party, the registration number of the boat and the date and time the yo-yo was set.

D. All yo-yos must be attended and re-tagged at least every 48 hours.

CYPRESS LAKE AND BLACK BAYOU RESERVOIR, BOSSIER PARISH

Hoop nets, wire nets and slat traps

A. Hoop nets, wire nets and slat traps are prohibited from March 1 - Oct. 31 of each year.

B. All hoop nets, wire nets and slat traps shall be removed from the lakes prior to March 1 of each year.

LAKE D'ARBONNE

Yo-Yo restrictions

A. No more than 50 yo-yos, or trigger devices, shall be allowed per person.

B. Each yo-yo, or trigger device, shall be clearly tagged with the name, address and telephone number of the owner or user.

C. When used, each yo-yo or trigger device, shall be checked at least once

every 24 hours, and all fish, and any other animal caught or hooked, shall be immediately removed from the device.

D. Each yo-yo or trigger device must be rebaited at least once every 24 hours.

E. When not being used in accordance to the above regulations, each yo-yo or trigger device shall be removed immediately from Lake D'Arbonne.

F. No yo-yo or trigger device shall be attached to any metallic object.

Trotline Restrictions

A. All trotlines must be marked, tagged, and dated with the owner or user's name, address, phone number and the date of placement. The trotline must be marked on each end with a floating object that is readily visible.

B. No person shall set more than three trotlines with a maximum of 50 hooks per trotline.

C. All trotlines must be removed from Lake D'Arbonne when not in use.

D. All trotlines must have an eight foot cotton leader on each end of the trotline to insure that if the trotline is left unattended, the cotton leader will deteriorate and the line will sink.

E. All trotlines must be attended daily while in service.

POVERTY POINT

A. No person shall possess, set, or use any recreational hoop nets, recreational wire nets, yo-yos, trotlines, or slat traps.

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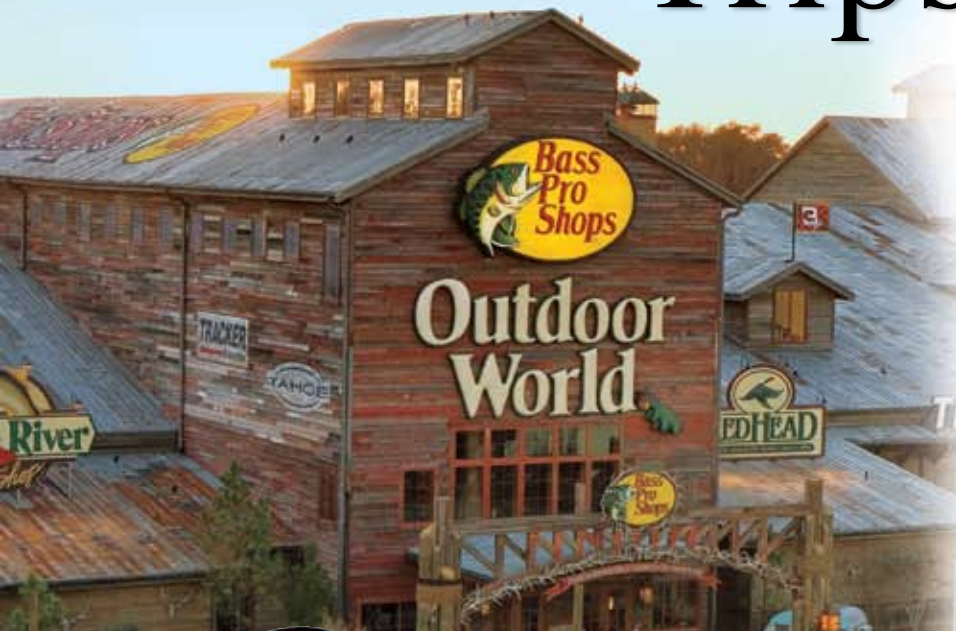
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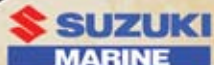


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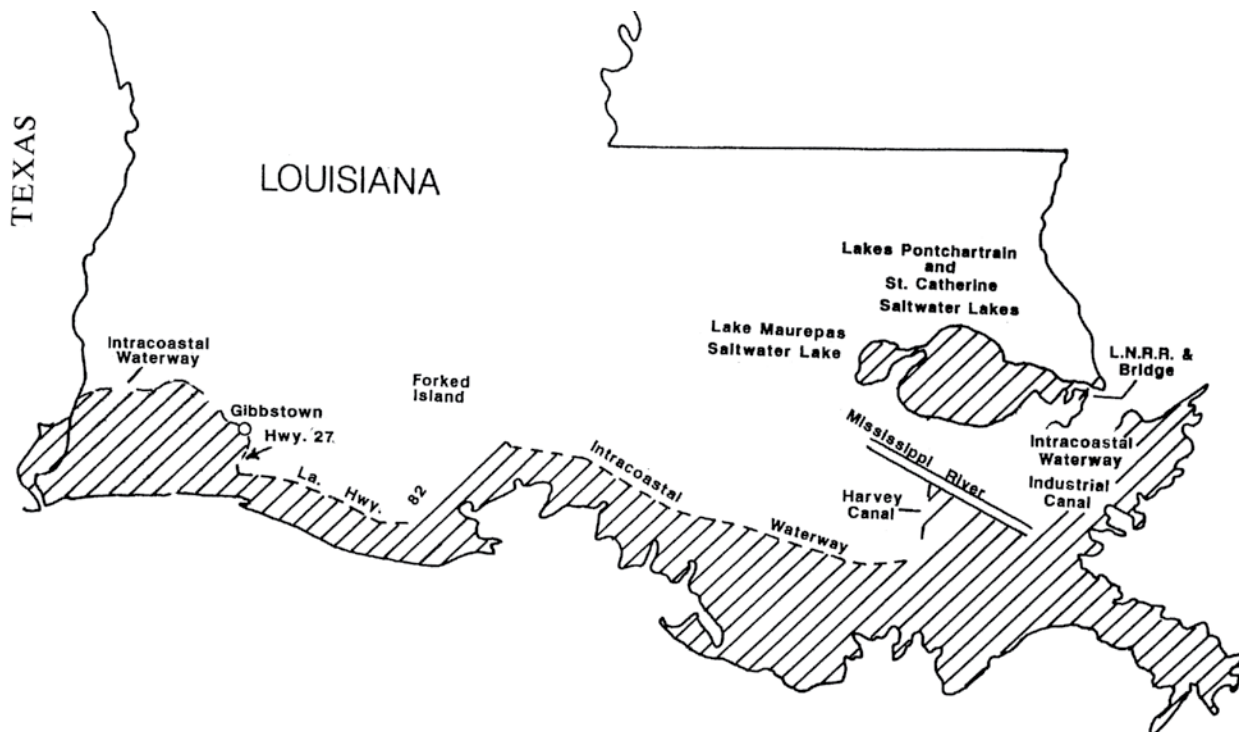


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For the purposes of regulating certain fisheries the legislature recognized the historic division of the state into saltwater and freshwater areas based on the variations of flora and fauna found within these two divisions. The legislature further recognized that the exact line of demarcation cannot be precisely located due to constant changes in water salinity caused by winds, tides, and rains. The legislature therefore legally defined the freshwater and saltwater areas by describing a line from the Texas state line, easterly to the Mississippi state line. The areas south of the described line, plus a number of saltwater lakes and waterways, were designated as saltwater areas and all other areas north of the described line were designated as freshwater areas.

LOUISIANA SALTWATER LINE DEFINITION

Title 56, Section 322-The Intracoastal waterway from the Texas-Louisiana boundary to its junction with Louisiana Highway 27 at Gibbstown, and then south to Louisiana Highway 82 and then east to its junction with the Intracoastal

Waterway at Forked Island, the Intracoastal Waterway from Forked Island to Bayou Barataria to the Harvey Canal, the Harvey Canal to the Mississippi River, the Mississippi River to the Industrial Canal, the Industrial Canal to the Intracoastal Waterway, the Intracoastal Waterway to the Rigolets in Orleans Parish to the Louisville & Nashville Railroad bridge, the Louisville & Nashville Railroad right-of-way from the Orleans Parish line to the Mississippi state line.

The areas south of the above described line, plus the saltwater lakes known as Lake Maurepas, Lake Pontchartrain, Lake St. Catherine, Chef Menteur Pass (except that seven-tenths of a mile section from Bayou Sauvage south to the Intracoastal Waterway), the Rigolets, Unknown Pass, Pass Manchac, Intracoastal, and that portion of the Calcasieu Ship Channel from the Intracoastal Waterway south to the Gulf of Mexico, shall be designated as saltwater areas.

Persons fishing and/or possessing saltwater fish in these areas are required to have in addition to the

basic fishing license a saltwater fishing license.

FEDERAL WATERS (EEZ)

A very easy way to tell if you are in state or federal waters is to pull up to the nearest platform. If the platform is in state waters it will have a placard with a State Lease Number. If the platform is in federal waters it will be designated with an OCS number. By utilizing a block map you can also estimate your position. The platform will be designated with an area and block number. For instance if you see ST-128 X, OCS 00498 you will be in federal waters at South Timbalier 128 platform X.

DEFINITIONS

1. **Angle:** to fish with rod, fishing pole or hook and line, with or without a reel.
2. **Bait seine:** a net measuring no more than 30 feet in length with a mesh size not exceeding 1/4-inch mesh bar, 2-inch mesh stretched, and operated solely by foot without any mechanical device, pulley or mechanical assistance whatsoever.
3. **Bait species:** all species of fish and other aquatic life utilized for bait.
4. **Bandit gear:** vertical hook-and-line gear with rods attached to a vessel and with line retrieved with rods and with line retrieved by manual, electric or hydraulic reels. (Use prohibited in state waters)
5. **Bona fide resident:**
 - A. any person who has resided in this state continuously during the 12 months immediately prior to the date on which he applies for any license and who has manifested his intent to remain in this state by establishing Louisiana as his legal domicile, as demonstrated by compliance with all of the following, as applicable.
 - i. If registered to vote, he is registered to vote in Louisiana.
 - ii. If licensed to drive a motor vehicle, he is in possession of a valid Louisiana driver's license.
 - iii. If owning a motor vehicle located within Louisiana, he is in possession of a valid Louisiana registration for that vehicle.
 - iv. If earning an income, he has filed a Louisiana state income tax return and has complied with state income tax laws and regulations.
 - B. as to a corporation or other legal entity, a resident shall be any which is incorporated or otherwise organized under, and subject to, the laws of Louisiana, and is domiciled in Louisiana and has a permanent physical location of business in Louisiana where records are held.
 - C. any person, corporation or other legal entity which possesses a resident license from other states shall not qualify for a resident license in Louisiana.
6. **Can:** a metal container of not more than 55-gallon capacity which is set for the purpose of taking fish.
7. **Cast net:** a light circular net of vegetable or synthetic materials and weighted around its perimeter that is thrown by hand over the water.
8. **Crab dropnet:** any device constructed with vegetable, synthetic, or metal fibers and without flues or throat, attached to a wire frame that forms a net basket and is used for the purpose of taking crabs. This device shall be operated solely by hand and fished in a stationary, passive manner.
9. **Crab trap:** a cube-shaped, device constructed of wire, no larger than 30 inches on any side, and with either a bait box or materials providing cover or shelter for peeler crabs. The entrance funnels must extend no further than seven inches into the inside of the trap, with the openings to the entrance funnels on the vertical wall of the trap such that the horizontal diameter of each opening is at least one and one-half times the vertical diameter of the opening.
10. **Crawfish net:** any device constructed with vegetable or synthetic material without flues or throats attached to a wire frame that forms a net basket and is used for the purpose of taking crawfish.
11. **Crawfish trap:** any device constructed of coated wire with the opening of the throats or flues not exceeding two inches and which is used for the express purpose of taking crawfish.
12. **Dip net:** a net, usually a deep mesh bag of vegetable or synthetic materials, on a fixed frame not to exceed three feet in diameter attached to a handle and held and worked exclusively by hand without any mechanical assistance and by no more than one individual.
13. **Finfish:** (*noun*) any of numerous cold-blooded aquatic vertebrates that characteristically swim with fins, breathe with gills and are covered with skin or scales.
14. **Fish:** (*noun*) all finfish, shellfish and crustaceans and all other species of aquatic life.
15. **Fork length:** distance from tip of snout to midline of caudal fin. Used to measure some fish with deeply forked tails, such as amberjack.
16. **Freshwater recreational fish:** any species of freshwater fish taken for recreational purposes.
17. **Fyke net:** any cone-shaped net of vegetable or synthetic fibers having throats or flues which are stretched over a series of rings or hoops to support the webbing, with vertical panels of net wings set obliquely on one or both sides of the mouth of the cone-shaped net.
18. **Game fish:** all of the following species of freshwater and saltwater fish.
 - A. **Freshwater game fish:** largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), spotted bass (*Micropterus punctulatus*), shadow bass (*Ambloplites ariommus*), black or white crappie (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*, *P. annularis*), white bass (*Morone chrysops*), yellow bass (*Morone mississippiensi*), striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*), hybrid striped bass (striped bass-white bass cross or striped bass-yellow bass cross) and any species of bream (*Lepomis sp.*).
 - B. **Saltwater game fish:** any sailfish (*Istiopharus platypterus*), blue marlin (*Makaira indica*), black marlin (*Makaira nigricans*), striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*), hatchet marlin (*Tetrapturus spp.*), white marlin (*Tetrapturus albidus*), and red drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*).

19. **Hook:** any curved or bent device attached to a line for the purpose of taking fish or alligator and consisting of not more than one eye and one shank with no more than three barbs.
20. **Hoop net:** a cone-shaped net of vegetable or synthetic materials having throats or flues and which are stretched over a series of rings or hoops to support the webbing.
21. **Landing net:** means a net, usually a mesh bag of vegetable or synthetic material on a fixed frame attached to a handle held and operated by hand for the sole purpose of assisting in the landing of fish legally caught by other legal gear.
22. **Lead or wing net:** a panel of netting of any mesh size or length, with or without weights and floats, attached to one or both sides of the mouth of a cone-shaped net having flues or throats, and set so as to deflect or guide fish toward the mouth of the net.
23. **Licensee:** any resident or nonresident lawful holder of an effective license duly issued under the authority of the department.
24. **Lower jaw fork length (LJFL):** longest distance from tip of lower jaw to midline of caudal fin. Used to measure billfish such as marlin and swordfish.
25. **Mesh size:** the full measure of the mesh as found in use when measured as follows:
 - A. **Bar measure** is the length of the full bar stretched from the near side of one knot to the far side of the other after being tarred, treated or otherwise processed.
 - B. **Stretched measure** is the full stretched distance from the near side of one knot to the far side of the opposite knot diagonally across the mesh. This measurement shall not be applicable to weaved or woven nets commonly used for menhaden fishing.
 - C. In woven nets, stretched measure is the full stretched distance of the opening of the mesh; bar measure is one-half of stretched measure.
26. **Monofilament:** a single untwisted synthetic filament.
27. **Nonresident:** any person who is not a bona fide resident as that term is defined by R.S. 56:8(69). See **Bona fide resident**.
28. **Possess:** in its different tenses, the act of having in possession or control, keeping, detaining, restraining or holding as owner, or as agent, bailee or custodian for another. When possession of fish or other wildlife is prohibited, reference is made equally to such fish or other wildlife coming from without the state as to those taken within the state.
29. **Recreational purposes:** a purpose other than deriving or attempting to derive an income of any kind from the harvest of fish. "Income" as used herein shall not include a prize or award offered as a prize in a fishing tournament.
30. **Reptiles and amphibians:** native frogs, toads, turtles, snakes, lizards and salamanders.
31. **Saltwater fish:** all species of finfish which normally inhabit the saline waters of the marine and estuarine environment for most of their life cycle.
32. **Saltwater recreational fish:** any species of saltwater fish taken for recreational purposes.
33. **Shellfish:** an aquatic invertebrate species having a shell. These species include, but are not limited to, oysters, clams, crawfish, shrimp, crabs and other mollusks and crustaceans.
34. **Slat trap:** any device, used solely for the capture of catfish, which is cylindrical, rectangular, or square in cross section configuration, constructed of slats forming the length of the trap, with at least one pair of slats spaced at least one inch apart from each other on at least three sides of the trap and which is no more than six feet in length, two feet in diameter or width and which has one or more cone-shaped throats, flues or entrances.
35. **Slot limit:** protective size limits denoting that fish within the range, inclusive of stated measurements, must be returned to the water immediately.
36. **Take:** in its different tenses, the attempt or act of hooking, pursuing, netting, capturing, snaring, trapping, shooting, hunting, wounding or killing by any means or device.
37. **Test trawl:** a trawl which is not more than 16 feet along the corkline or 20 feet along the headline or headrope.
38. **Total length:** the longest measurable distance from the outermost portion of the snout lengthwise to the outermost portion of the caudal fin.
39. **Transport:** in its different tenses, the act of shipping, attempting to ship, receiving or delivering for shipment, transporting, conveying, carrying or exporting by air, land or water, or by any means whatsoever.
40. **Trawl:** any net, generally funnel-shaped, pulled through the water or along the bottom with otter boards to spread the mouth open while being fished. The term "trawl" also means and includes plumb staff beam trawls that do not exceed 16 feet, and that do not use otter boards but are held open laterally by a horizontal beam and vertically by two vertical beams (plumb staffs), and that are used while the vessel is under way.
41. **Trigger:** any tension-loaded rubber band or spring device that contains several feet of line and a hook or hooks, which is baited and set, and which automatically hooks and plays a fish.
42. **Wing net:** see **Lead net**.
43. **Wire net:** a cone-shaped net of vegetable or synthetic materials, with a mesh no less than one inch square or two inches stretched, having throats or flues and which is stretched over wire of five inch mesh or greater to support the webbing.

FRESHWATER STATE CREEL AND SIZE LIMITS

SPECIES	SIZE LIMIT	BAG & POSSESSION LIMIT
Bass, Black (Largemouth, spotted)*	no size limits EXCEPT as follows	10 daily, of any size EXCEPT as follows:
Atchafalaya Basin, Lakes Verret/Palourde, Fausse Point/Dauterive Areas**	14" min total length	10 daily
Toledo Bend Reservoir	largemouth - 14" min total length spotted* - no size limit	8 daily in aggregate
Eagle Lake	16" min total length	10 daily
Caddo Lake (Caddo Parish)	14" to 17" protected slot limit***	10 daily No more than four over 17" total length
Poverty Point Reservoir	15" to 19" protected slot limit***	8 daily No more than one over 19" total length
Caney Creek Lake (Jackson Parish)	15" to 19" protected slot limit***	8 daily No more than two over 19" total length
False River (Pointe Coupee Parish)	14" min total length	5 daily
Spanish Lake (St. Martin and Iberia parishes)	16" to 21" protected slot limit***	8 daily No more than two over 21" total length
Black Bayou (Bossier), Chicot Lake (Evangeline), Cross Lake (Caddo), Lake Rodemacher (Rapides), John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River) and Vernon Lake (Vernon)	14" to 17" protected slot limit***	8 daily No more than four over 17" total length
Bass, Striped or Hybrid Striped (or any combination thereof)	n/a	5 daily No more than two over 30" total length
Bass, White	none	50 daily, EXCEPT 25 at Toledo Bend
Bass, Yellow	none	50 daily, EXCEPT no limit at Toledo Bend
Bowfin (Choupique)	16" min total length	No limit
Buffalo Fish (or their hybrids)	16" min total length	25 per day
Catfish, Blue	12" min total length	<i>See Catfish Possession Limit section for more information</i>
Catfish, Channel	11" min total length	
Catfish, Flathead	14" min total length	
Crappie	none	50 daily, EXCEPT 25 at Poverty Point
Crawfish	none	150 pounds daily
Freshwater Drum (Gaspergou)	12" min total length	25 per day
Frogs and Turtles	none	<i>See Reptiles and Amphibians section</i>
Paddlefish	30" max lower jaw fork length	Two per person (<i>see Paddlefish Possession Limits section for specific rules</i>)
Shad	none	50 pounds daily
Sturgeon	n/a	No legal harvest or possession
Other Freshwater Game Fish	none	No limit

*NOTE: For enforcement purposes, a spotted bass is defined as a black bass with a tooth patch on the tongue.
 **See official 2009 Louisiana Fishing Regulations Pamphlet for area descriptions.
 ***Fish falling within a protected slot limit must be immediately released.

ADDITIONAL FRESHWATER FISHING INFORMATION

DAILY BAG LIMIT

No person shall take in any one day more than the daily bag limit as set by law for any species of fish.

POSSESSION

No person shall have in his possession more than twice the daily bag limit of any kind of freshwater recreational fish; except that only one day's bag limit of black bass may be in possession while on the water and except that only a one day's bag limit of all species of fish may be in possession while on the water at Toledo Bend Reservoir; and except that the possession limit for catfish is as identified under **Catfish**; and except that only one day's bag limit of crappie may be in possession while on the water at Poverty Point.

All freshwater game fish caught in any type of recreational or commercial net or trap must be returned immediately to the water from which taken without avoidable injury.

All regulations regarding these species apply whether caught in salt or fresh water areas.

SALE OF CERTAIN FRESHWATER FISH PROHIBITED

No person shall purchase, sell, exchange or offer for sale or exchange, or possess or import with intent to sell or exchange any freshwater or saltwater game fish, or any fish taken recreationally or taken with any recreational gear.

PROHIBITED FRESHWATER FISH

No person may possess or sell in this state the following fishes: all species of piranha, tilapia and carp (except koi or common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) and goldfish (*Carassius auratus*)); Rio Grand Cichlid; freshwater electric eel (*Electrophorus* sp.); rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*); all members of the families *Synbranchidae* (Asian swamp eels), *Channidae* (snakeheads), *Clariidae* (walking catfishes), and *Trichomycteridae* (pencil catfishes).

No fish of any species from outside the state shall be liberated within the state except upon written permission of the Secretary.

No fish of any species shall be liberated into state waters without written permission of the Secretary.

Exotic species of Asian carp (silver, bighead, black and grass) taken recreationally from state waters must not be returned to the water and may not be possessed alive.

ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, LAKE VERRET-PALOURDE AREA AND LAKE FAUSSE POINT-DAUTERIVE AREA



The area south of U.S. 190 from the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee (WABPL) to the intersection of LA 1 and U.S. 190 due north of Port Allen, west of LA 1 from U.S. 190 to LA 20 in Thibodaux, north and west of LA 20 from LA 1 to U.S. 90, north of U.S. 90 from LA 20 to the WABPL, east of the WABPL from U.S. 90 to the Corps of Engineers (USACE) Locks on the WABPL at the Charenton Drainage and Navigation Canal (CDNC), north of and including the CDNC from the USACE Locks on the WABPL to Highway 87, north and east of Highway 87 from the CDNC to Highway 320, east of Highway 320 from Highway 87 to Highway 86, south and east of Highway 86 from Highway 320 to Highway 345, east of Highway 345 from Highway 86 to Highway 679, south and east of Highway 679 from Highway 345 to Highway 3083, south of Highway 3083 from Highway 679 to the WABPL and east of the WABPL from Highway 3083 to U.S. 190.

CATFISH POSSESSION LIMITS

The possession limit for catfish caught recreationally shall be 100. The 100 fish may be a single species, or a combination of blue, channel or flat-head catfish. A recreational fisherman may possess a maximum of 25 under-size catfish of a single or combination of all three species within the 100 fish possession limit.

PADDLEFISH POSSESSION LIMITS

The incidental take and possession of paddlefish is allowed under the following conditions: The taking or possession of paddlefish is closed in all saltwater areas of the state and in border waters shared with Texas. All possessed paddlefish must be dead. The possession or transportation of live paddlefish is prohibited. All paddlefish possessed on the waters of the state shall be maintained intact. No person shall possess paddlefish eggs on the waters of the state which are not fully attached to the fish. The daily take and possession limit of paddlefish is two per person. All paddlefish greater than 30 inches lower jaw fork length must be returned to the water immediately. (See section on "Measuring Fish" for an illustration).

**Releasing aquarium
fish or unused bait into
state waters is illegal.**

NOXIOUS AQUATIC PLANTS IMPORTATION PROHIBITED



NOTICE TO FISHERMEN AND BOATERS

With increasing frequency, introduced aquatic plants are creating serious aquatic habitat problems in many areas of the state. To minimize the spread of these plants in

Louisiana waters we recommend the following: check boats (live wells, ice chests, fishing tackle, etc.) and trailers for the presence of aquatic vegetation prior to departing the launch site. If present, we encourage you to remove **ALL** plant material and dispose of it in a manner that will prevent introduction into other waterbodies.

No person shall at any time import or cause to be transported into the jurisdiction of the state of Louisiana from any other state or country, any of the invasive noxious aquatic plants listed below, without first obtaining an Invasive, Noxious Aquatic Plant permit from the department:

1. *Eichhornia azurea* (rooting or anchoring hyacinth)
2. *Elodea canadensis* (elodea)
3. *Hydrilla* spp. (hydrilla)
4. *Lagarosiphon muscoides* & *Lagarosiphon major* (African elodea)
5. *Myriophyllum spicatum* (Eurasian watermilfoil)
6. *Najas marina* (marine naiad)
7. *Najas minor* (slender naiad)
8. *Panicum repens* (torpedograss)
9. *Pontederia* spp. (pickerelweed)
10. *Spirodela oligorrhiza* (giant duckweed)
11. *Trapa* (waterchestnut)
12. *Melaleuca quinquenvia* (kapok tree)
13. *Pistia stratiotes* (water lettuce)
14. *Salvinia* spp. (salvinia)
15. *Lythrum salicaria* (purple loosestrife)
16. *Eichhornia crassipes* (water hyacinth)

NOTICE TO OFFSHORE FISHERMEN

Louisiana recreational and commercial anglers fishing offshore beyond the Louisiana boundary are in federal waters and are subject to rules and regulations that may differ from those in state waters. To ensure that you are in compliance with federal regulations, you should contact the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council at 813- 348-1630, toll free 1-888-833-1844 (write 2203 N. Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607 for informational pamphlet, e-mail gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org or visit: www.gulfcouncil.org. All persons possessing fish in Louisiana waters must be in possession of applicable basic or saltwater license. Contact your local Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Agent for specific information (numbers listed on page 7).

GENERAL NOTES

All saltwater finfish except tuna, garfish and swordfish possessed by a recreational angler shall have the head and caudal fin intact until set or put on shore. Tuna, garfish, swordfish and shark possessed by a recreational angler shall not be skinned or scaled until set or put on shore. Tuna which have minimum size requirements may have head removed if carcass length is in excess of minimum total length.

Fillets may not be possessed on the water, except for the purpose of consumption at sea aboard the harvesting vessel, a person shall have no more than two pounds of finfish parts per person on board the vessel, provided that the vessel is equipped to cook such finfish and such finfish does not exceed applicable bag limits. These provisions shall not apply to bait species.

Saltwater finfish caught or transported by a recreational fisherman, while license is in effect, are presumed to have been taken in Louisiana waters, for license requirements.

All regulations regarding these species apply whether caught in fresh or salt water areas.

DEFINITIONS (BILLFISHES)

For purposes of this section, the following words and phrases have the meaning ascribed to them in this subsection, unless the context clearly shows a different meaning:

1. ***Dressed weight:*** weight of the carcass after it has been gutted, headed and finned.
2. ***Carcass Length:*** curved measure from posterior edge of gill opening to anterior portion of caudal keel.
3. ***Lower Jaw Fork Length:*** straight-line length from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail.
4. ***Curved Fork Length:*** tip of upper jaw to fork of tail measured along the contour of the middle of the body.
5. ***Trip:*** a fishing trip, regardless of the number of days' duration, that begins with departure from a dock, berth, beach, seawall or ramp and that terminates with return to a dock, berth, beach, seawall or ramp.

Unless otherwise established, there are no size limits on species not listed and unless otherwise noted, possession limits for saltwater fish are the same as the daily bag limit.

SALTWATER STATE CREEL AND SIZE LIMITS

SPECIES	SIZE LIMIT	BAG & POSSESSION LIMIT
COMMON COASTAL SPECIES		
Cobia (Ling or Lemon Fish)	33” min fork length	2 daily per person
Drum, Black	16” min total length	5 daily per person - bag and possession No more than one over 27” max total length
Drum, Red (Redfish) ¹		5 daily per person - bag ² No more than one over 27” max total length
Flounder, Southern	none	10 daily per person (for each consecutive day on the water)
Mackerel, King ³	24” min fork length	2 daily per person
Mackerel, Spanish ³	12” min fork length	15 daily per person
Mullet, Striped	none	100 lbs. daily
Seatrout, Spotted (Speckled Trout) ⁴	12” min total length	25 daily per person - bag ² ; 15 daily per person with no more than two over 25” (in specified areas)
HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ⁵		
Marlin, Blue	99” min lower jaw fork length	none
Marlin, White	66” min lower jaw fork length	
Sailfish	63” min lower jaw fork length	
Shark, Atlantic Sharpnose and Bonnethead ⁶	none	1 daily per person - possession
Shark, Others (EXCEPT prohibited, silky and sandbar) ⁶	54” min fork length	1 in aggregate per vessel per trip - possession. No silky or sandbar sharks or prohibited species.
Swordfish ⁷	29” min carcass length or 33 lbs. min dressed weight	5 per vessel per trip
Tuna, Bigeye ⁸	27” min curved fork length	none
Tuna, Bluefin ⁸		none
Tuna, Yellowfin ⁸		3 daily per person
REEF FISH ³		
Grouper, Black and Gag ^{9, 10}	22” min total length	5 daily in aggregate No more than one speckled hind and one Warsaw grouper per vessel and not more than one red grouper per person included in the bag limit. ^{3, 9}
Grouper, Red and Yellowfin ^{9, 10}	20” min total length	
Grouper, Scamp ^{9, 10}	16” min total length	
Grouper, Goliath and Nassau	Take Prohibited	Take/Possession prohibited
Snapper, Red ^{10, 11}	16” min total length	2 daily per person ²
Snapper, Mutton	16” min total length	10 daily per person in aggregate ³
Snapper, Queen, Blackfin, Silk and Wenchman	none	
Snapper, Schoolmaster, Cubera, Gray (mangrove), Yellowtail, Dog and Mahogany	12” min total length	
Snapper, Lane	8” min total length	20 daily per person in aggregate ³
Snapper, Vermilion	10” min total length	
Alamo Jack	none	
Gray Triggerfish	14” min fork length	
Tilefish, Goldface, Blackline, Anchor and Blueline Tilefishes	none	
Amberjack, Greater ¹⁰	30” min fork length	1 daily per person ³
Amberjack, Lesser and Banded Rudderfish	14” min fork length 22” max fork length	5 daily per person in aggregate
Hogfish	12” min fork length	5 daily per person
Seabass, Black	8” min total length	none

EXPLANATION OF SALTWATER CREEL AND SIZE LIMITS

¹ Red Drum (Redfish), and Spotted Seatrout (Speckled Trout):

Recreational saltwater anglers may possess a two day's bag limit on land; however, no person shall be in possession of over the daily bag limit in any one day or while fishing or while on the water, unless that recreational saltwater angler is aboard a trawler engaged in commercial fishing for a consecutive period of longer than 25 hours. Take or Possession of **red drum** in federal waters is prohibited.

² Two days' bag limit allowed in possession off of the water, not while fishing or in a boat.

³ Two day limit allowed in possession only on charter vessels and headboats on multi day trips, if the vessels have two licensed operators as required by the U.S. Coast Guard for trips more than 12 hours, and if each angler has in possession a receipt issued on behalf of the vessel verifying the length of the trip.

⁴ Seatrout, Spotted (Speckled Trout): 12" minimum total length. 25 fish per person daily bag limit. **EXCEPT:** 15 fish daily take and possession limit, with no more than two spotted seatrout exceeding 25" total length, regardless of where taken, in a defined area of Cameron and Calcasieu Parishes in southwestern Louisiana. Within those areas described here, including coastal territorial waters: south of Interstate 10 from its junction at the Texas-Louisiana boundary eastward to its junction with Louisiana Highway 171, south to Highway 14, and then south to Holmwood, and then south on Highway 27 through Gibbstown south to Louisiana Highway 82 at Creole and south on Highway 82 to Oak Grove, and then due south to the western shore of the Mermentau River, following this shoreline south to the junction with the Gulf of Mexico, and then due south to the limit of the state territorial sea, under the authority of the provisions of R. S. 56:325.1(A), the daily take and possession limit shall be 15 fish, regard-

less of where taken, with no more than two spotted seatrout exceeding 25 inches total length. Those spotted seatrout exceeding 25" in length shall be considered as part of the daily recreational take and possession limit.

⁵ Highly Migratory Species: All owners/operators of vessels fishing recreationally for and/or retaining regulated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (Atlantic tunas, sharks, swordfish and billfish) in the Atlantic Ocean, including the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea, must obtain an Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) permit. Similar to Atlantic tunas permits, 2010 Atlantic HMS permits will be valid from the date of issuance through December 31, 2010.

Federal regulations currently require a federal HMS angling permit for all owners/operators of recreational vessels fishing for and/or retaining regulated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (Atlantic tunas, sharks, swordfish and billfish) in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Those regulations also require an Atlantic HMS Charter/ Headboat permit for all charter or headboat fishing for and/or retaining regulated Atlantic HMS in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico. For information contact the National Marine Fisheries Service Permitting Office at 1-888-USA-TUNA (1-888-872-8862) or visit NMFS Permit Shop at: <http://www.nmfspermits.com/initialapp.asp>.

Recreational tournament operators: A person conducting a tournament involving scorekeeping or awards for highly migratory species including Atlantic billfish, swordfish, tuna and sharks (whether or not retained), must register with the NOAA Fisheries Permit Office, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL, 33701 or by FAX to 727-824-5398. The registration must be in writing, at least four weeks prior to commencement of tournament fishing. A tournament registration form is available upon request from the above address or can be requested by FAX to 727-824-5398. NOTE: Federal regulations currently require registration

of all fishing tournaments involving the catch and/or landing of any HMS in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

⁶ Sharks: CLOSED SEASON: All Louisiana state waters out to the seaward boundary of the Louisiana Territorial Sea shall be closed to the recreational and commercial harvest and possession of all sharks between April 1 and June 30 of each year.

Small Coastal Sharks:

Atlantic sharpnose shark; bonnethead shark; blacknose shark; finetooth shark

Large Coastal Sharks:

blacktip shark; nurse shark; smooth hammerhead; bull shark; sandbar shark*; spinner shark; great hammerhead; scalloped hammerhead; tiger shark; lemon shark; silky shark*

***NOTE:** Recreational harvest of sandbar and silky sharks (ridgeback sharks) is not allowed.

Pelagic Sharks:

blue shark; porbeagle shark; thresher shark; oceanic whitetip shark; short-fin mako

Prohibited Species:

No person shall take, possess, purchase, sell, barter, exchange or attempt to possess, purchase, sell, barter or exchange any of the following species or parts thereof:

Atlantic angel shark; Caribbean sharpnose shark; sand tiger shark; basking shark; dusky shark; sevengill shark; bigeye sand tiger shark; Galapagos shark; sixgill shark; bigeye sixgill shark; largetooth sawfish; smalltail shark; bigeye thresher shark; longfin mako; smalltooth sawfish; bignose shark; narrowtooth shark; whale shark; Caribbean reef shark; night shark; white shark.

Sharks taken under a recreational bag limit shall not be sold, purchased, exchanged, bartered or attempted to be sold, purchased, exchanged or bartered. A person subject to a bag limit shall not possess at any time, regardless of the number of trips or the duration of a trip, any shark in excess of the bag limits mentioned above. The practice of "finning," that is, removing only the fins and returning the remain-

der of the shark to the sea, is prohibited within and without Louisiana waters. Notwithstanding other provisions of this part, a person may fish for, but not retain, white shark (*Carcharodon carcharias*) with rod and reel only under a catch and release program, provided the person releases and returns such fish to the sea immediately with a minimum of injury.

⁷ **Swordfish:** Recreational fishing vessels shall not possess more than five swordfish per vessel per trip. Swordfish taken under a recreational bag limit shall not be sold, purchased, exchanged, bartered, or attempted to be sold, purchased, exchanged or bartered. No person aboard any vessel shall transfer or cause the transfer of swordfish between vessels on state or federal waters.

⁸ **Tuna:** Person subject to the jurisdiction of the state, fishing for tunas within or without Louisiana state waters, are subject to both state and federal laws, rules and regulations. Federal regulations on recreational harvest of tunas change often, especially for bluefin tuna. Prior to harvest of tuna, be aware of the most

current federal regulations on harvest, including sizes, bag limits and closed seasons. The “Atlantic Tunas Regulations Brochure” is available at <http://hmspermits.noaa.gov/library.asp> and announcements of changes may be accessed via the web at <http://hmspermits.noaa.gov/news.asp>.

All bluefin tuna must be reported within 24 hours of landing to NMFS by calling 888-872-8862 or visiting www.hmspermits.noaa.gov. For further information regarding angling category permits please call the NMFS HMS Division at 888-872-8862.

Permanent Louisiana regulations on tuna harvest may be superseded by seasonal changes within the federal regulatory system. See websites referenced above for current federal regulations.

⁹ **Grouper: NOTE:** *A closed season has been established for recreational harvest of gag, black and red grouper, effective Feb. 15 - March 14 of each year in Louisiana state waters. As of the publication date of this pamphlet, modified rules on bag limits were*

being considered. Please refer to the LDWF website for current information:

www.wlf.louisiana.gov/fishing/recreational/saltwater/seasons and www.wlf.louisiana.gov/fishing/recreational/saltwater/regulations.

Other seasons and rules are currently in place in Federal waters off of Louisiana. Please check those rules at <http://www.gulfcouncil.org/> under “Fishing Regulations.”

¹⁰ No harvest of red snapper, greater amberjack or grouper of any species is allowed for the captain and crew of vessel, under charter (their creel limit is zero).

¹¹ **Snapper, Red:** A federal recreational quota for red snapper is in effect. The recreational season for harvest of red snapper is scheduled to open **June 1**. For red snapper season information check the LDWF website at:

www.wlf.louisiana.gov/fishing/recreational/saltwater/seasons and www.wlf.louisiana.gov/fishing/recreational/saltwater/regulations.



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2. IN A LARGE DUTCH OVEN OR FRYER, PLACE ENOUGH OIL TO DEEP FRY FISH. THE OIL SHOULD COVER THE FISH BY APPROXIMATELY 1-2 INCHES. PREHEAT OIL TO 375 °F.

3. IN ANOTHER MIXING BOWL, BLEND MILK, ZATARAIN'S CREOLE MUSTARD AND LEMON JUICE. PLACE FISH IN CREOLE MUSTARD BATTER, THEN IN ZATARAIN'S SEASONED FISH-FRI, AND DEEP FRY UNTIL GOLDEN BROWN, APPROXIMATELY 4 MINUTES.



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To recreationally shrimp, a person will need basic and saltwater licenses. To use a trawl, a person will additionally need a gear license for a trawl which can be purchased at any license issuing facility.

AREAS

Grand Isle Beach closed out to 500' May to September by Commission action.

Shrimping areas in Louisiana are divided into inshore waters, the off-shore territorial sea and the federal Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The line (shrimp line) that separates inside waters from outside territorial waters generally follows the coastline, although there are some exceptions. For specific boundary locations check with your local Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Agent. Maps of the shrimp line are available at a charge of \$10 per map by writing the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2021 Lakeshore Drive, Suite 400, New Orleans, LA 70122. Please specify which area of the coast you are interested in. The line that separates state territorial waters from the EEZ generally follows the Louisiana coast three miles from shore. For specific boundary locations, particularly in the Grand Isle and Marsh Island area, you should contact your local Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Agent.

For management purposes, both state inside and state outside territorial waters are divided into three shrimp management zones:

Zone 1: extends from the Louisiana/Mississippi state line to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River.

Zone 2: extends from the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River to the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island.

Zone 3: extends from the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island to the Louisiana/Texas state line.

NOTE: Restricted areas exist within WMAs, refuges and other areas which may be closed to certain gear types or methods of fishing. Consult your local Wildlife and Fisheries Office or Enforcement

Agent and the WMA section of this pamphlet.

Night shrimping, between the hours of one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, is prohibited in Vermilion Bay, East and West Cote Blanche Bays, and Atchafalaya Bay, from the western shore of Vermilion Bay to the western shore of the Atchafalaya River and the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel out to Eugene Island as described by the inside-outside line in R.S. 56:495.

Taking shrimp with saltwater trawls from May 1 - Sept. 15 each year is prohibited in state waters on the south side of Grand Isle from Caminada Pass to Barataria Pass in Jefferson Parish, from the southeast side of the Caminada bridge to the northwest side of Barataria Pass at Fort Livingston, extending from the beach side of Grand Isle to a distance of 500 feet beyond the shoreline into the Gulf of Mexico.

TRAWLING

No person shall trawl over any privately leased bedding grounds or oyster propagating place which is staked off, marked or posted as required by law or regulation.

Trawling is prohibited in Lake Maurepas and that portion of Lake Pontchartrain from the shoreline to 1.25 miles out from the Jefferson/Orleans Parish line east to the eastern shore of South Point, from South Point to North Shore along the railroad bridge west from North Shore to Goose Point.

Trawling is prohibited between the railroad bridge and Interstate 10 in Lake Pontchartrain.

Trawling at night is prohibited in Cameron Parish sections of Calcasieu Lake, the Black Lake Bayou System, Grand Bayou and Little Burten's Ditch. Trawling at night is prohibited in Grand Lake and White Lake.

Trawls are prohibited in the waters of Bayou Judge Perez (Bayou Hermitage) from its entrance into Lake Judge Perez (Bayou Hermitage) to Devils Bayou, a distance of approximately one mile, located in Plaquemines Parish.

Trawling north of the LA Highway 631 Bridge at Des Allemands, Louisiana, and in Lake Des Allemands, its streams and tributaries, is prohibited.

Trawling is prohibited in the cove immediately adjacent to Cypremort Point State Park landward of a line from Blue Point to Cypremort Point to the shoreline.

SEASONS

Trawls cannot be used for any purpose in state waters during closed season. Shrimp seasons are flexible and are fixed by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission based upon biological and technical data relative to shrimp populations in Louisiana waters. Generally, the spring inshore season will begin in early to mid May and may extend into July. The fall inshore season usually begins near mid-August and typically extends into December. The shrimp season in Louisiana's outside territorial waters is generally open year round **EXCEPT** for a closed season in portions of state outside waters which may be set during the late winter to early spring months usually beginning in December or January and extending into March or April. The shrimp season in the federal waters of the Gulf outside (south) of Louisiana's territorial waters is usually open all year; these waters are controlled by the federal government. A federal shrimp vessel permit is required for all vessels fishing shrimp in the Gulf of Mexico EEZ.

Information concerning federal shrimp vessel permits, Turtle Excluder Device (TED) and Bycatch Reduction Devices (BRD) requirements and exemptions can be obtained by contacting the National Marine Fisheries Service at (727) 824-5312 for TEDs or (727) 824-5305 for BRDs or at: www.nmfs.noaa.gov.

SIZE LIMIT

There is no size limit on any saltwater shrimp taken during the spring open season nor is there any size limit on brown shrimp or seabobs taken during any open season in Louisiana. There is, however, a minimum possession count on white shrimp taken in either inside or outside (offshore)

waters of Louisiana of 100 count (whole shrimp per pound). This size restriction applies to the taking or possession of such shrimp aboard a vessel, **EXCEPT** during the period from Oct. 15 through the third Monday in December when there shall be no possession count on white shrimp taken or possessed. When more than 50 percent by weight of the shrimp taken or possessed is seabobs or brown shrimp, then the maximum allowable amount of undersized white shrimp taken or possessed shall not exceed 10 percent by weight of the total shrimp taken or possessed.

METHODS OF TAKING

During open seasons, saltwater shrimp may be taken with trawls or cast nets and by no other means. Bait shrimp may be taken at any time, even during the closed season, with cast nets less than 8.5 feet in radius, hand operated dip nets with a diameter not to exceed three feet, bait traps, and bait seines less than 30 feet with a maximum mesh size of 1/4 inch bar,

1/2 inch stretched mesh which are manually operated on foot only.

Cast Nets, Dip Nets, Bait Seines: A recreational angler may use dip nets, bait seines, and cast nets not to exceed 8.5 feet in radius, but shall not take at anytime more than 50 pounds of shrimp during closed season and 100 pounds of shrimp per day during the open season, in the aggregate, per day per boat or vehicle, regardless of the number of persons thereon, provided the shrimp taken are used for bait or for the fisherman's own consumption and are not sold, traded or otherwise permitted to enter into commerce. Certain WMAs and state or federal refuges may have different rules, consult local LDWF office or Enforcement Agent for specifics. (See **WMA and Refuge** section).

Trawls: Trawls cannot have a mesh size less than 5/8 inch bar or 1.25 inches stretched. In Zone 2 from the western shore of the Atchafalaya River to the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island, mesh size must not be less

than 3/4 inch bar or 1.5 inches stretched during the fall inshore shrimp season. No net or beam trawl used for taking fish or shrimp from the saltwater areas of the state shall be left unattended, as defined in R.S. 56:8(102) except such legal nets or trawls which are attached to a wharf at a camp and which are tagged with a department tag issued in conjunction with the gear being used.

During the open shrimping seasons, trawls 25 feet and less may be used for recreational purposes; recreational shrimpers using trawls 16 feet in length or less are limited to 100 pounds (heads on) of shrimp per boat per day, and recreational shrimpers using trawls exceeding 16 feet but not exceeding 25 feet in length are limited to no more than 250 pounds of (heads-on) shrimp per day per boat, provided the shrimp taken are used for bait or the fisherman's own consumption and are not sold, traded or otherwise permitted to enter commerce. **A recreational trawl license is required.** (See **License** section for license prices).

RECREATIONAL CRABBING

A recreational basic fishing and saltwater license in addition to a recreational crab trap gear license is required to use crab traps, with a limit of 10 traps per licensed fisherman.

METHODS OF TAKING

Crabs or stone crabs may be taken with any legal crab trap, crab dropnet, trawl, hoop net, trotline, handline, bushline, dip net or cast net. Dredges shall not be used for the intentional taking of crabs.

The taking of crabs by means of trawls in inside waters is permitted only during the open season for shrimp and with a legal mesh size (see **Shrimp Trawls**).

No person shall possess adult female crabs in the berry stage (i.e., carrying the eggs or young attached to the abdomen). All crabs in the berry stage taken by any means shall be returned immediately to the waters.

Gear restrictions may exist within certain WMAs, refuges or other areas. Consult your local Wildlife and

Fisheries Office or Enforcement Agent. (See **WMA and Refuge** section).

CRAB TRAPS

A crab trap is a cube-shaped device, constructed of wire, no larger than 30 inches on any side, and with either a bait box or materials providing cover or shelter for peeler crabs. The entrance funnels must extend no further than seven inches into the inside of the trap, with the openings to the entrance funnels on the vertical wall of the trap such that the horizontal diameter of each opening is at least one and one-half times the vertical diameter of the opening.

The baiting, tending, checking or removing of serviceable crab traps in use, the contents of such crab traps or their lines, buoys or markers is prohibited in public waters from one half hour after legal sunset until one half hour before legal sunrise.

No crab traps shall be set in navigable channels or entrances to streams. Traps must be placed so vessels can safely navigate.

Crab traps which are no longer serviceable or no longer in use shall be removed by the owner and properly disposed of or stored by him.

No person other than the licensee or his agent shall intentionally damage or destroy serviceable crab traps or the floats or lines attached thereto, or remove the contents thereof.

Each crab trap shall be marked with a two-inch stainless steel self locking tag attached to the center of the trap ceiling. Tags shall be supplied by the fishermen and shall have the recreational crab trap gear license number printed thereon. Crabbers are allowed to use a durable plastic bait box marker as an alternate means of tagging crab traps. Crab traps may be attached to a trotline to which at least one end is attached to a nonfloating line and a visible float of at least six inches in diameter or two-gallon volume size. Crab traps located in areas designated as freshwater north of the northern bank of the Intracoastal Waterway and west of Louisiana Highway 70 are not required to be

marked with a float and float line. Each crab trap on a trotline shall be registered with the department and shall have attached thereto a tag bearing the crab fisherman's license number. **This is the LDWF # at the top of your license.**

All crab traps are required to be marked with a solid float at least six inches in diameter. The float must be attached to the trap with a non-floating line at least 1/4 inch in diameter. West of Highway 70 - no mark required.

Each crab trap shall have a minimum of two escape rings. All escape rings shall be placed on the vertical outside walls flush with the trap floor or baffle with at least one ring located in each chamber of the trap. The minimum sizes of the rings shall be two and five sixteenths inches in inside diameter, not including the ring

material. Rings shall be rigid and attached to the trap with material of a smaller diameter than the wire strands of the trap. Escape ring openings may be obstructed with material that prevents or hampers exit of crabs from April 1 - June 30 and from Sept. 1 - Oct. 31.

Metal tackle or metal crab traps shall not be used in any of the public waters north of the Intracoastal Waterway in the Calcasieu River or in any body of water comprising the Calcasieu River System north of the Intracoastal Canal or in the waters of Vermilion Bay from Cypremort Point one mile offshore to Blue Point.

Crab traps are prohibited in the Tchefuncte River.

SIZE/POSSESSION LIMITS

There is no minimum recreational size limit for blue crabs. The daily

and possession limit is 12 dozen per person, daily and in possession.

There is no minimum recreational size limit for stone crabs or stone crab claws. Certain WMAs and state and federal refuges may have different possession limits. Consult local LDWF offices or Enforcement agents for specifics (*see page 31 "WMA and Refuge Regulations"*)

Any person using crab nets or crab lines for the purpose of taking crabs for recreational purposes shall not be required to purchase or possess a basic recreational fishing license or be required to purchase a gear license. However, persons using crab nets or crab lines on LDWF WMAs or refuges must possess a basic and saltwater recreational fishing license or a Wild Louisiana Stamp.

RECREATIONAL OYSTERING

SEASONS

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission designates which public oyster areas are open for fishing by opening or closing the season as biological data indicate. The owner of an oyster lease or his designee, with written permission, may fish oysters at any time of year on their lease. **NOTE:** Areas opened by the Commission may, however, be closed by the Department of Health and Hospitals for public health reasons. Information on closed areas is available from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or from the Department of Health and Hospitals.

SIZE/POSSESSION LIMITS

All oysters taken from public oyster areas must be three inches or greater in length from hinge to mouth. A lessee of private oyster areas may be permitted to take undersized oysters from public areas for bedding purposes only. Size restrictions do not apply to oysters taken from a private lease.

Recreational oyster fishermen may harvest oysters only with the written permission of the lease holder or in public oyster areas open for the harvesting of oysters. Recreational

oyster harvesters are limited to two sacks per person per day for personal consumption. Recreational oyster fishermen are also required to possess a basic and saltwater fishing license in addition to a gear license for recreational gear used.

METHODS OF TAKING

Recreational oyster harvest for home consumption is limited to tonging or gathering by hand. A recreational tonging license is required for each tong in use and a recreational basic and recreational fishing license is required for persons 16 to 59 inclusive for taking oysters by hand. Any resident who turned 60 years of age on or after June 1, 2000 shall be required to purchase a senior fishing license to take oysters.

LEASES

Any person who qualifies and who desires to lease a part of the bottom of any state waters shall present to the Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries a written application and cash deposit of such amount as determined by LDWF.

RESTRICTIONS

Culling oysters, which is the act of discarding undersized oysters or dead shell, shall be performed only on the open designated public areas or on private leases on which the fisherman is authorized to take oysters. At no time will the act of culling oysters be permitted in areas closed to oyster harvest.

The taking of oysters one half hour after sunset until one half hour before sunrise is prohibited.

Oysters taken from the reefs of this state either for sale or consumption shall be landed in Louisiana, except with an out of state oyster landing permit and in compliance with all other rules and regulations.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

Reptile and Amphibian regulations apply to frogs, salamanders, lizards, snakes, turtles and related species. They do not include alligators.

In order to collect non protected reptiles and/or amphibians for non commercial purposes (personal use as food, bait, etc), all residents and non residents must possess a Basic Resident or Nonresident Fishing License.

Removal of nesting or nest tending animals is prohibited.

Traps must be checked daily.

Turtle traps must be open above water to allow breathing, be marked as "turtle trap," and be constructed as a horizontal, single throated device. No additional gear license is required for a turtle trap.

Possession of finfish while turtle trapping is prohibited.

Use of gasoline to flush animals from hiding places is prohibited.

Natural cover such as stumps and logs may not be destroyed while searching for animals.

Frogs may be taken using any visible light and mechanical devices known as frog catchers or with devices that puncture the skin such as gigs and spears.

Possession of firearms while taking or hunting frogs at night is prohibited.

BULLFROGS (*RANA CATESBEIANA*) AND PIG FROGS (*RANA GRYLIO*)

May be taken year round except during the months of April and May.

No person shall take or possess bullfrogs (*Rana catesbeiana*) that are less than five inches in length, nor take or possess pig frogs (*Rana grylio*) that are less than three inches in length. Length is measured from the tip of the muzzle to the posterior end of the body between the hind legs.

EXCEPTION: Frogs under the legal length may be taken from privately owned ponds or waters by the owner thereof or his authorized repre-

sentative and may be sold for the purpose of stocking ponds or waters.

ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLES (*MACROCLEMYS TEMMINCKI*)

No size limit. **Bag limit:** One per day per person, per vehicle.

DIAMONDBACK TERRAPINS (*MALACLEMYS TERRAPIN*)

May not be taken by trap of any kind and may not be taken between April 15 and June 15. Must measure 6 inches or more carapace length.

TURTLE EGGS

No turtle eggs may be taken except for those of the red eared slider (*Trachemys scripta*), wherever found.

BOX TURTLES

No more than four box turtles of the genus *Terrapene* may be possessed at any time, and only two may be taken per day.

RESTRICTED - THREATENED/ ENDANGERED REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

The following species may not be taken or collected from the wild in Louisiana: tiger salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum*); southern red backed salamander (*Plethodon serratus*); Webster's salamander (*Plethodon websteri*); mud salamander (*Pseudotriton montanus*); red salamander (*Pseudotriton ruber*); and threatened or endangered species: green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*); hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*); Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*); leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*); loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*); gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*); ringed map turtle (*Graptemys oculifera*); dusky gopher frog (*Rana sevosa*).

FISHING REGULATIONS ON WMAs AND REFUGES

A Wild Louisiana Stamp, hunting license or fishing license shall be required for use of department administered lands including wildlife refuges and wildlife management and habitat conservation areas. Persons under 16 years of age and 60 years of age or older are exempt from this requirement. Persons attending official functions of private, non-profit and charitable organizations recognized as tax exempt under the provisions of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code shall be exempt from this requirement.

ATCHAFALAYA

Camping and Houseboat Mooring: allowed only in designated areas.

DEWEY W. WILLS

Crawfish: Limited to 100 pounds per person per day.

FORT POLK

Fishing: Special regulations pertaining to fishing are posted at specific lakes.

GRASSY LAKE

Sport Fishing: Same as outside **EXCEPT** permitted only after 2 p.m. during waterfowl season on Smith Bay, Red River Bay and Grassy Lake proper.

Crawfishing: April 1 - July 31. Recreational only. 100 lbs per boat or group daily.

LAKE BOEUF

All nighttime activities prohibited, including frogging.

MANCHAC

Crabs: No crab traps allowed. Attended lift nets are allowed.

OUACHITA

Crawfish: April 1 - May 31. 100 pounds per person per day limit. Night crawfishing prohibited. No traps or nets left overnight.

Waterfowl Refuge: North of LA Hwy. 15 closed to all fishing during duck season including early teal season.

PASS-A-LOUTRE

Oyster: harvesting is prohibited.

Camping and Houseboat Mooring: allowed only in designated areas.

POINTE-AUX-CHENES

All nighttime activities prohibited.

Recreational Fishing: Shrimp may be taken by the use of cast nets only. During the inside open shrimp season, 25 pounds per boat per day (heads on) maximum shall be permitted. Size count to conform with open season requirements. During the inside closed season, 10 pounds per boat per day (heads on) may be taken for bait. Oyster harvesting is prohibited. Fish may be taken only by rod and reel or hand lines for recreational purposes only. Crabs may be taken only through the use of hand lines or nets; however, none are to remain set overnight. Twelve dozen crabs maximum are allowed per boat or vehicle per day. Crawfish may be harvested in unrestricted portions of the WMA and shall be limited to 100 pounds per boat or group. Fishing gear used to catch crawfish shall not remain set overnight. The harvest of all fish, shrimp, crabs and crawfish is for recreational purposes only and any commercial use is prohibited.

Vessels/Vehicle: All boats powered by internal combustion engines having horsepower ratings above 25 h.p are not allowed in the Grand Bayou, Montegut and Pointe-aux-Chenes water management units. Public is permitted to travel anytime through the WMA for access purposes only, in the waterways known as Grand Bayou, Humble Canal, Little Bayou Blue and Grand Bayou Blue. All other motorized vehicles, horses and mules are prohibited unless authorized by LDWF.

POMME DE TERRE

Sport Fishing: Same as outside **EXCEPT** allowed only after 2 p.m. only during waterfowl season.

Crawfish: April 1 - July 31. Recreational only. 100 lbs. per boat or group daily.

RED RIVER

Crawfish: Allowed on Yakey Farms wetland restoration projects **Feb. 1-29**. 100 lbs. per person per day maximum of five wire traps per person. No traps or nets left overnight. No motorized watercraft.

RUSSELL SAGE

Crawfish: 100 pounds per person per day limit.

SALVADOR/TIMKEN

All nighttime activities prohibited including frogging.

Recreational Fishing: Shrimp may be taken by the use of cast nets only. During the inside open shrimp season, 25 pounds per boat per day (heads on) maximum shall be permitted. Size count to conform with open season requirements. During the inside closed season, 10 pounds per boat per day (heads on) maximum may be taken for bait. Fish may be taken only by rod and reel or hand lines for recreational purposes. Crabs may be taken only through the use of hand lines or nets; however, none are to remain set overnight. Twelve dozen crabs maximum are allowed per boat or vehicle per day. Crawfish may be harvested in unrestricted portions of the WMA and shall be limited to 100 pounds per boat or group. Fishing gear used to catch crawfish shall not remain set overnight. The harvest of all fish, shrimp, crabs and crawfish are for recreational purposes only and any commercial use is prohibited. Boats powered by internal combustion engines having horsepower ratings above 25hp are permitted only in oil company access canals, Louisiana Cypress Canal, the Netherlands Pond including the West Canal, Lakes "Baie Des Chactas" and "Baie Du Cabanage" and the Rathborne Access ditch. Use of mudboats powered by internal combustion engines with four cylinders or less is permitted in interior ditches from Sept. 4 - Feb. 1. Pulling

boats over levees, dams or water control structures or any other activities which cause detriment to the integrity of levees, dams and water control structures is prohibited.

SHERBURNE

Crawfishing: April 1 - July 31. Recreational crawfishing only on the Sherburne WMA. Crawfish harvest limited to 100 pounds per vehicle or boat per day. No traps or nets left overnight. No motorized water craft allowed on farm complex.

SODA LAKE

Sport Fishing: April 1 - Aug. 31.

SPRING BAYOU

Sport Fishing: Same as outside **EXCEPT** allowed after 2 p.m. during waterfowl season.

Crawfish: April 1 - July 31. Recreational only, 100 lbs. per person or group daily.

ROCKEFELLER WILDLIFE REFUGE, STATE WILDLIFE REFUGE (VERMILION) & MARSH ISLAND WILDLIFE REFUGE

Trawling: prohibited.

Trotlines, Jug Lines, Trammel and Gill Nets and Traps: prohibited.

Commercial Fishing: All commercial fishing and use of any commercial fishing gear on the refuge is prohibited. **Commercial fishing gear or trawls** shall not be permitted in possession while participating in sport fishing on the refuge. Commercial fishing gear may be in possession for non-stop access directly across the refuge or for safe harbor only.

Shrimp: Twenty-five pounds of shrimp (heads on) per boat or vehicle per day is allowed during the inside open shrimp season as established by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. Ten pounds of shrimp (heads on) for bait purposes may be caught during the closed season. Shrimp may be harvested only by cast net on the refuge and only for sport fishing or home consumption use.

When harvesting shrimp with a cast net, contents shall be dumped in a container and not on the ground.

Crawfish: May be harvested from the open portion of the refuge and 100 pounds per boat or vehicle is allowed per day. Set nets may be used but must be attended and removed from the refuge daily. No commercial harvest is allowed.

Crabs: May be harvested from the open portion of the refuge and 12 dozen crabs are allowed per boat or vehicle per day. **NOTE:** No commercial harvest is allowed on Marsh Island Refuge.

Oysters: May be harvested by tonging (properly licensed) or by hand collection from the natural reefs. One gallon per boat or vehicle per day is allowed and oysters must be opened at the reef and the shells returned to the reef. Taking of oysters on the reef is dependent upon Department of Health and Hospitals' approval and may be closed at any time by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Vessels: Speed boat racing and water skiing are prohibited. All boat traffic shall honor no wake zones and shall keep wave wash to a minimum. Pulling boats over or around levees, dams or water control structures is prohibited. Jet skis and air boats are prohibited.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS INDIAN BAYOU AREA

Crawfishing: Feb. 1 - Aug. 31. Additional Permit required, available Jan. 1.

BOATING SAFETY

BOATING SAFETY COURSE

No person born after Jan. 1, 1988, shall operate a motorboat powered by a motor in excess of ten horsepower unless he/she has successfully completed a boating safety class approved by the National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA). A person who has completed an approved boating safety class shall be in possession of evidence of such completion when operating such a boat.

A motorboat may be operated if any person on board or participating in any boating activity from the motorboat is over the age of eighteen and, if required to, has completed a boating safety course.

For information on Boating Safety courses, see the LDWF website at www.wlf.louisiana.gov.

PERSONAL FLotation DEVICES (LIFEJACKETS)

Boats under 16 feet in length must have a Type I, II or III wearable USCG approved personal flotation device on board for each person in the vessel, including anyone in a tow-behind activity.

Boats 16 feet or longer must have a Type I, II or III wearable USCG approved personal flotation device for each person aboard or being towed, plus a Type IV USCG approved throw cushion or ring buoy.

All persons onboard a boat under 16 feet propelled by a handtiller outboard motor greater than 10 horsepower must wear a Type I, II, III or V USCG approved personal flotation device while the boat is underway.

Children 12 years old or younger must wear a properly sized and fitted, USCG approved personal flotation device at all times when the vessel is underway with the main source of propulsion.

All personal flotation devices must be in serviceable condition, readily accessible, and of the proper size for the wearer.

NAVIGATION LIGHTS

Navigation lights must be displayed between sunset and sunrise and during periods of restricted visibility.

Rowboats, canoes and pirogues must have a white light to be displayed

when operating between the hours of sunset and sunrise.

Any vessel at anchor must display a white 360-degree light at the highest location visible to all points of the horizon.

FIRE EXTINGUISHER (MUST BE USCG APPROVED)

A vessel of any length must have a fire extinguisher when it has any of the following:

- Inboard engine.
- Closed compartments where portable fuel tanks may be stored.
- Double bottoms not sealed to the hull or not completely filled with flotation materials.
- Closed living spaces.
- Closed storage compartments in which flammable or combustible materials may be stored.
- Permanently installed fuel tanks are installed and fuel tanks of 10 gallons or more.

VENTILATION SYSTEM

Any gasoline-powered vessels (except outboards) that are constructed in a way that may entrap gasoline fumes must be fitted with either a natural or powered ventilation system.

BACKFIRE FLAME ARRESTER

All vessels using a gasoline-powered engine must have the carburetor or carburetors fitted with USCG approved flame arrestors.

ENGINE CUT-OFF SWITCH

Boats under 26 feet that are propelled by a handtiller outboard motor manufactured with an engine cut-off switch must have an engine cut-off switch link attached to the operator, the operator's clothing or, if worn, the operator's personal flotation device while underway.

MUFFLERS

All vessels must be equipped with an efficient muffler or exhaust system that is capable of adequately muffling the exhaust of the vessel.

HORNS/WHISTLES

All vessels 16 feet and over must have a horn.

All vessels must have a horn in periods of restricted visibility.

VISUAL DISTRESS SIGNALS

Any watercraft used on coastal waters including territorial seas up to a point where the waters are less than two miles wide shall be equipped with USCG approved visual distress signaling devices. **The following watercraft shall be exempt when operating between sunrise and sunset:**

- Recreational boats less than 16 feet in length.
- Boats participating in organized events, which have been permitted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or the United States Coast Guard.
- Open sailboats not equipped with propulsion machinery and less than 26 feet in length.
- Manually propelled boats.

DIVER-DOWN FLAGS

Scuba divers and snorkelers must display a "diver down" flag that marks their diving area. Vessels should remain at least 100 feet away from the flag. The diver-down flags are either red with a white diagonal stripe for Louisiana waters or a blue and white flag for federal waters.

BOATING ACCIDENTS

If involved in a boating accident, the operator must stop his or her vessel at the scene of the accident and give assistance to anyone injured or minimize any danger caused by the accident, unless doing so would seriously endanger his or her vessel or passengers. Give his or her name, address and identifying number of the vessel in writing to anyone injured in the accident and to the owner of any damaged property. Boat operators involved in an accident resulting in death or injury to a person or property damage in excess of \$500 must report it to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the nearest law enforcement agency, or the state police by the most prompt means of communication. As well a written report on an accident resulting in death or injury to a person or property damage in excess of \$500 must be filed with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries within five days. Accident reports are available from any regional Wildlife and Fisheries office or on our website at: www.wlf.louisiana.gov.

RULES OF THE ROAD

The following regulations shall dictate the operation of vessels upon the waters of the state and shall set forth a standard of operation. In construing and complying with these rules, due regard shall be had to all dangers of navigation and collision and to any special circumstances, including the limitations of the vessels involved, which may make a departure from the rules necessary to avoid immediate danger.

1. Vessels passing head-on shall each keep to their respective right.
2. A vessel overtaking another vessel may do so on either side, but must grant the right-of-way to the vessel being overtaken.
3. When vessels are passing at right angles, the vessel on the left will yield right-of-way to vessel on the right.
4. Motorboats shall yield right-of-way to non-motor powered boats except as follows:
 - A. When being overtaken by non-powered vessels.
 - B. For deep draft vessels that have to remain in narrow channels.
 - C. When vessel is towing another vessel.
5. Motorboats must maintain a direct course when passing sailboats.
6. A vessel approaching a landing dock or pier shall yield the right-of-way to any departing vessel.
7. A vessel departing shoreline or tributary shall yield right-of-way to through traffic and vessels approaching shoreline or tributary.
8. Vessels will not abruptly change course without first determining that it can be safely done without risk of collision with another vessel.
9. If an operator fails to fully comprehend the course of an approaching vessel he must slow down immediately to a speed barely sufficient for steerageway until the other vessel has passed.
10. Vessels yielding right-of-way shall reduce speed, stop, reverse or alter course to avoid collision. Vessel with right-of-way shall hold course and speed. If there is danger of collision, all vessels will slow down, stop or reverse until danger is averted.
11. Vessels will issue warning signals in fog or weather conditions that restrict visibility.
12. No mechanically propelled vessel shall be operated so as to traverse a course around any other vessel underway or any person swimming.
13. In a narrow channel, vessels will keep to the right of mid-channel.
14. Vessels approaching or passing another vessel shall be operated in such manner and at such a rate of speed as will not create a hazardous wash or wake.
15. No vessel shall obstruct or interfere with take-off, landing or taxiing of aircraft.
16. All vessels shall be operated at reasonable speeds for given conditions and situations and must be under the complete control of the operator at all times.
17. No person shall, under any circumstances, operate a vessel in excess of an established speed or wake zone.
18. No vessel or person shall obstruct or block a navigation channel, entrance to channel, mooring slip, landing dock, launching ramp, pier or tributary.
19. Vessels shall keep at least 100 feet clearance of displayed diver's flag.
20. Operator shall maintain a proper lookout.

NOTE: For a more comprehensive compilation of boating and vessel requirements, see the LDWF website at www.wlf.louisiana.gov for a printable version of "Handbook of LA Boating Laws and Regulations." For more information on boating regulations or safe boating courses visit the LDWF website or phone 225-765-2984.

SAFETY TIPS

FILING A FLOAT PLAN

- Before going out on a vessel it is always a good idea to leave a float plan.
- Leave it with a relative or friend.
- A float plan should describe the vessel, its registration number, size, hull color and engine type. Note the boat landing that is to be used to unload the boat and the area where you intend to fish with names of lakes and bayous, etc.
- List the number and names of passengers and any cell phone numbers and VHF radio call sign of the vessel.

FALLS OVERBOARD

- Don't stand in a moving boat.
- Don't sit on gunwales, seat-backs or bow area of the boat.
- Don't lean over the side for any reason.
- Always hold on to something when moving in a stationary boat and never move about in a boat when it is underway.
- Always wear a personal flotation device when the boat is underway.



Clean water is important to all of us. One way for boaters and anglers to help protect and improve the quality of our waters is to eliminate the overboard discharge of sewage. Sewage discharges are unsightly and may contain disease-carrying bacteria and viruses. The microorganisms can contaminate shellfish beds and areas used for swimming, fishing and skiing. The decaying of sewage can also degrade aquatic habitats by depleting oxygen in the water.

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

1. Use shore-side toilet facilities before going out on the water.
2. Dispose of waste from portable toilets or on-board sewage holding tanks properly.

3. Don't throw anything overboard.
4. Bring cut fishing line ashore.
5. Avoid discharging bilge waste into the water.
6. Be careful when fueling; try to prevent spills.

Boaters can legally and conveniently dispose of waste at properly installed and operated marine pumpout and portable toilet wash-down stations.

The Clean Vessel Act (CVA) Grant Program reimburses marina owners up to 75 percent of the cost of approved pumpout and washdown station installations or improvements. For more information on boat sewage disposal facilities or the CVA Grant Program, please contact the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries at (225) 765-2864, or visit the Louisiana CVA web page by going to www.wlf.louisiana.gov, clicking on "Boating," clicking on "Programs" then clicking on "Clean Vessel Program."

IT'S THE LAW!

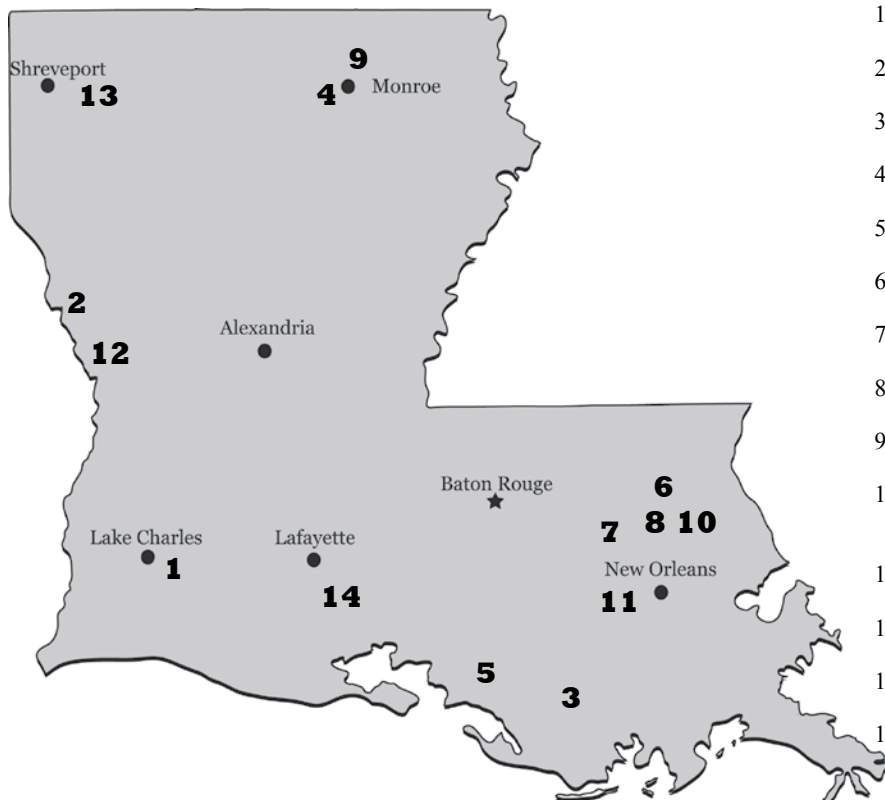
Federal and state laws prohibit the discharge of untreated sewage from vessels within Louisiana's navigable waters. This includes territorial seas within the three mile limit. Federal and state laws also prohibit the discharge of sewage (treated and untreated) within No Discharge Zones.

Recreational vessels with installed toilets must have an operable Marine Sanitation Device (MSD) certified by the U.S. Coast Guard. Portable toilets are not considered as installed and are not subject to MSD regulations. However, it is illegal to empty portable toilets overboard.

MSDs may have a Y-valve that, when in position, allows direct discharge of raw sewage. Boat operating in U.S. territorial waters must have the Y-valve secured in a closed position to prevent discharges.

To report boat sewage violations, contact your regional Wildlife and Fisheries office, the U.S. Coast Guard, or the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at (225) 219-3640.

The numbers on the map refer to the marinas with sewage disposal facilities listed below. The waterbodies they serve are in parenthesis. Please call for hours, services offered, cost (if any) or other information.



1. Bowtie Marina, Lake Charles - \$5.00 (Contraband Bayou) 337-478-0130
2. Cypress Bend Park, Negreet (Toledo Bend) 318-256-4118
3. Downtown Marina, Houma - \$5.00 (Bayou Terrebonne/GIWW) 985-873-6428
4. Forsythe Point, Monroe (Ouachita River) 318-329-4101
5. Lake End Park, Morgan City - \$5.00 (Lake Palourde) 985-380-4623
6. Marina Beau Chene, Mandeville - \$5.00 (Tchefuncte River) 985-845-3454
7. Marina Del Ray, Madisonville - \$10.00 (Tchefuncte River) 985-845-4474
8. Mariner's Village Marina, Mandeville (Lake Pontchartrain) 985-626-1517
9. Moon Lake Resort, Monroe (Ouachita River) 318-322-2300
10. Northshore Marine Sales & Service, Inc., Mandeville - \$5.00 (Bayou Castine) 985-626-7847
11. Orleans Marina, New Orleans (Lake Pontchartrain) 504-288-2351
12. Pleasure Point Landing, Toro (Toledo Bend) 318-565-4810
13. Plum Orchard Park, Doyline (Lake Bistineau) 318-987-7275
14. New Iberia Boat & Sewerage Pumpout Facility, New Iberia - \$5.00 (Bayou Teche) 337-365-9493

VOLUNTARY GULF OF MEXICO MARINE COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOL

The voluntary Gulf of Mexico (GOM) communications protocol is an agreed communications format that identifies methods of notification, recommended frequencies and generally accepted two-way marine VHF radio protocols. It is for use in GOM Outer Continental Shelf areas and State Territorial Waters adjacent to Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. The objective is to provide a common voluntary marine communications protocol for GOM resource users to use in alerting parties that will be interacting in the same general area. This protocol will provide a common communication format for notification and feedback between offshore platform and rig operators and others in responding to the safety needs of all GOM resources users.

Any vessel operator (commercial, for hire (charter/headboat), recreational fishermen, sport divers and oil and gas contractors and operators) proposing to approach either fixed or floating drilling, production and support facilities or oil and gas transportation infrastructure should utilize the GOM communications protocol.

PROTOCOL

Any vessel approaching either a fixed or floating offshore facility with the intent of tying to or remaining around (within 1,500 feet of) that facility for any purpose, should contact as far in advance as practical that specific facility using a marine VHF radio on Channel No. 16. All offshore facilities are identified by signage that identifies the Area, Block, Platform and Operator.

This protocol helps GOM offshore facility operators identify vessels approaching or mooring and gives shared resource users a common communication tool. If vessels fail to establish communications, a facility operator is faced with the task of evaluating the vessel's intent. Communications will help operators make a judgment on the activity and help access if the vessel poses a threat to the people or facility.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS TO FISHERMEN WHEN FISHING AROUND OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION PLATFORMS

Most offshore fishermen target oil and gas production platforms as their fishing location of choice. Petroleum platforms, commonly referred to as "rigs," provide recreation for fishermen and scuba divers because they act as artificial reefs, attracting and establishing aquatic communities, including highly sought food and sport fishes. Also, offshore facilities serve as navigation points for small marine craft. Manned facilities can also provide a haven for small craft operators forced to abandon their vessels during storms or following accidents.

Generally this interaction between fishermen and offshore platform personnel takes place without incident. However, periodically, a fisherman or scuba diver may be asked by platform personnel to move to another location. This request is generally made when certain potentially dangerous activities are taking place onboard the platform and is made for the safety of both platform personnel and the fisherman.

Some of these potential hazards to fishermen occur when construction or maintenance activities are underway. These activities frequently require use of marine support vessels that limit access to the facility and require frequent movement and the possibility for entanglement in anchor lines or mooring hardware exists. Platform cranes making lifts can expose vessels and personnel to dropped objects, and overhead work, such as blasting, welding and burning or painting, can also potentially expose people and equipment to falling debris and equipment. These activity types are easy to see and the request to move is easily understood.

Some activities taking place on offshore platforms that may also be dangerous are not as easily seen, and therefore, a request to move may be misunderstood. Activities such as well perforating, poisonous gas releases (red flashing light) or emergency shut downs that may require significant venting or flaring may not

be visible from the sea surface. Perforating activities require elimination of radio transmissions to help prevent an inadvertent triggering of the explosive charges. Gas releases, some of which may be poisonous (red flashing light), have the potential to drift to the water surface and envelop a vessel, where an open flame or spark could set off the gas.

Therefore, if asked by platform personnel to move to another structure, please understand the request is made for your safety, the safety of the personnel on board the platform and the safety of the facilities. Please observe common courtesy and move to another location.

EXAMPLE

Contact Request: "Eugene Island 313 "A" Platform, this is M/V Duck, M/V Duck, on Channel 16"

Response: "Eugene Island 313 "A" back to M/V Duck. Switch to Channel No. _____."

Follow Up on New Channel: "M/V Duck back; we are 5 miles out and in route to your location for _____ (offloading, fishing, diving, bird watching, etc) and request assistance in determining your current facility status."

Recognition: "Eugene Island 313 "A" back; we have no current marine traffic or hazardous operations but expect a supply boat later today." If the facility was planning operations that might preclude safe positioning of marine craft or if potentially hazardous lifting or well work is scheduled, the operator would so inform the vessel.

Notification: "M/V Duck back; we are a 25 foot sport fisherman out of Cocodrie with a total of five people on board and will approach your location at 0900 hours and estimate our stay at three hours."

The approaching vessel has established contact, identified its intent to approach or moor, its purpose, and estimated its time of arrival and time at location. The operator is now alerted to the fact that the vessel is approaching with the intent of being in the area and can validate actual activities by visually observing the vessel and its crew.

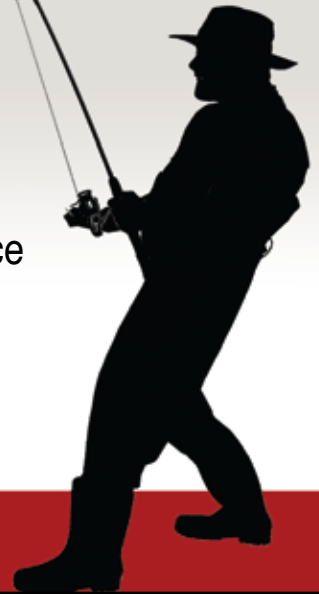


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visit us online at www.LouisianaShrimp.com.



The following information on fish consumption advisories has been furnished by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH). The Louisiana Departments of Health and Hospitals, Environmental Quality and Wildlife and Fisheries coordinate in the issuance of advisories.

Unless the fish species is specifically addressed in the details of these advisories, please limit consumption of all species in an advisory area to four meals per month. Louisiana fish consumption advisories are based on the estimate that the average Louisiana resident eats four fish meals per month (a meal is considered to be half a pound of fish for adults and children). If you or your family members eat more than four meals of fish a month from local water bodies, you might increase your health risks. You can contact the Office of Public Health toll free at 1-888-293-7020 or visit www.dhh.louisiana.gov/ for more information about eating fish that contain chemicals.

Readers should be aware that the information provided is a summary of the information available at the time of printing. Advisories may be changed or added at any time. Additional information on mercury and health advisories can be found on the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality's Internet address at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov>.

CONTAMINANTS IN FISH

Almost everywhere you look in Louisiana there is water, and where there is water, people catch and eat fish. However, in a few Louisiana waters, fish and shellfish have chemical contamination in amounts that may be harmful to your health if you were to eat too much over a long period of time.

These contaminants are in the environment because of various reasons such as natural deposition, industrial discharges, leaking landfills and misuse of pesticides. Fish take in the contaminants from water, sediments and food. Larger, older fish and fish that eat other fish tend to accumulate more contaminants than smaller, younger fish.

The Office of Public Health eval-

uates chemicals in fish to determine if the fish are contaminated and pose a health threat to children, pregnant women, adults or (when indicated) subsistence anglers. A fish consumption advisory is issued when unacceptable levels of chemical contaminants have been found in the fish file.

FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORY

Fish consumption advisories in Louisiana are based on chemical levels in the fish file. Advisories are issued at very conservative levels to insure the safety of individuals consuming fish. Advisories provide guidance regarding fish consumption for each species of fish. They do not tell you to stop fishing or to stop eating fish. Just be selective about the fish you or your family eat. None of the fish in Louisiana are contaminated enough to cause harm after a single or a few meals. The health risk comes from eating contaminated fish often and regularly over a long period of time.

HEALTH ADVICE AND GUIDELINES

Contaminants found in Louisiana fish can be grouped into two categories: organic chemicals (HCB, HCB, PCBs and Dioxin) and metals (mercury, lead). Organic contaminants build up in fish fat deposits and just under the skin, more than in the muscle tissue (filet). Metals are distributed evenly throughout the fish and cannot be removed from the filet by cooking or cleaning.

HOW TO REDUCE ORGANIC CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION IN FISH

- Remove all organs and skin. Organs and skin can be high in fat and organic chemicals.
- Trim off fatty areas shown in black on drawing. This includes belly fat, side fat and back fat. Organic contaminants concentrate in fat.
- Bake or broil skinned, trimmed fish on a rack or grill so fat drips off. Throw away drippings.
- When fish are poached or fried, throw away the broth or oil. Keep smaller fish to eat. Usually, young-

er, smaller fish are less contaminated than larger, older fish.

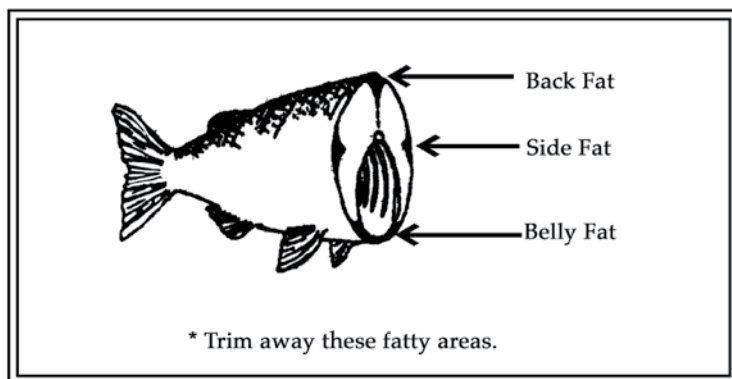
- Eat fewer predator fish such as bass, gar or pickerel. Contaminants bioaccumulate in predator fish.
- Vary diet by eating a variety of fish, shellfish, meat and poultry.
- Vary source of fish, seafood, meat, poultry and wild game.

CONSUMPTION ADVICE FOR WOMEN WHO ARE PREGNANT, NURSING OR MIGHT BECOME PREGNANT AND FOR YOUNG CHILDREN (EPA AND FDA, 2004)

By following these three recommendations for selecting and eating fish or shellfish, women and young children will receive the benefits of eating fish and shellfish and be confident that they have reduced their exposure to the harmful effects of mercury. Follow these same recommendations when feeding fish or shellfish to a young child, but serve smaller portions.

1. Do not eat shark, swordfish, king mackerel or tilefish, as these contain high levels of mercury.
2. Eat up to 12 ounces a week of a variety of fish and shellfish that are lower in mercury. The five most commonly eaten fish that are low in mercury are shrimp, canned light tuna, salmon, pollock and catfish. Up to six ounces a week of albacore ("white") tuna may be consumed since this variety contains more mercury than light tuna.
3. Check local advisories about the safety of fish caught by family and friends in your local lakes, rivers and coastal areas. If no advice is available, eat up to six ounces per week of fish caught in local waters. Do not consume any other fish that same week.

CLEANING METHOD TO REDUCE ORGANIC CONTAMINATION IN FISH



A "meal" is considered to be a half-pound (8 oz.) in size. Unless the fish species is specifically addressed in the details of the advisory, please limit consumption of all species in an advisory area to four meals per month. Louisiana fish consumption advisories are based on the estimate that the average Louisiana resident eats four fish meals per month. If you or your family eat more than four meals of fish a month from local water bodies, you might increase your health risks. You can contact the Office of Public Health toll free at 1-888-293-7020 for more information about eating fish that contain chemicals.

LOUISIANA HEALTH/FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES (MERCURY)

LOCATION	BOUNDARIES	PARISH	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSUMPTION		ISSUE DATE	LAST REVIEWED
			<i>Women of childbearing age and children under the age of 7</i>	<i>Other adults and children over the age of 7</i>		
Amite River Drainage Basin	Amite River from the Mississippi state line to its confluence with Lake Maurepas, Colyell Creek, the Amite River Diversion Canal and the Petite Amite River	East Feliciana, St. Helena, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, Ascension	Limit bigmouth buffalo, largemouth bass, spotted bass, white crappie (sac-a-lait), freshwater drum (gaspergou) and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit bigmouth buffalo, largemouth bass, spotted bass, white crappie (sac-a-lait), freshwater drum (gaspergou) and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	07/01/04	03/10/04
Bayou Bartholomew	Bayou Bartholomew from the LA/AR state line to its confluence with the Ouachita River	Morehouse	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel); Limit consumption of other fish species to no more than one meal per month combined.	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel); Limit consumption of other fish species to no more than four meals per month combined.	01/99; 05/29/03	03/10/04
Bayou Bonne Idee	Bayou Bonne Idee from its headwaters near Jones, Louisiana to its confluence with the Boeuf River east of Oak Ridge.	Morehouse	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel); Limit largemouth bass and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than one meal per month combined.	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel); Limit largemouth bass and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	07/01/04	12/04/03
Bayou Chene & Bayou Lacassine	Bayou Chene from its headwaters near Jennings to its confluence with Bayou Lacassine, and Bayou Lacassine from its headwaters near Lacassine to its confluence with Bayou Misere.	Jefferson Davis, Calcasieu, Cameron	Limit largemouth bass and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit largemouth bass and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	03/08/06	2005
Bayou de Loutre & associated lakes (Phillips, Hatley and Hudson)	Bayou De Loutre from the Arkansas state line to its confluence with the Ouachita River including Phillips, Hatley, and Hudson Lakes	Union	No consumption of any species.	Limit consumption of all species to no more than two meals per month combined.	11/20/00; 05/29/03; 07/01/04	03/10/04

LOCATION	BOUNDARIES	PARISH	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSUMPTION		ISSUE DATE	LAST REVIEWED
			<i>Women of childbearing age and children under the age of 7</i>	<i>Other adults and children over the age of 7</i>		
Bayou des Cannes	Bayou des Cannes from its origin near Ville Platte to its confluence with the Mermentau	Acadia, Evangeline	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel), black crappie (sac-a-lait) or freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than one meal a month combined.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel), black crappie (sac-a-lait) or freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than four meals a month combined.	10/97; 05/29/03	04/11/02
Bayou DeSiard	Bayou DeSiard from its headwaters to its confluence with the Ouachita River	Ouachita	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel); Limit consumption of other fish species to no more than one meal per month combined.	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel); Limit consumption of other fish species to no more than four meals per month combined.	05/29/03	09/04/02
Bayou Dorcheat	Bayou Dorcheat from the Arkansas State Line to its confluence with Lake Bisteneau.	Webster	Limit largemouth bass, spotted bass, black crappie, freshwater drum (gaspergou), flathead catfish and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit largemouth bass, spotted bass, black crappie, freshwater drum (gaspergou), flathead catfish and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	07/01/04; 03/08/06	2005
Bayou Liberty	The entire length of Bayou Liberty	St. Tammany	Limit largemouth bass, crappie (sac-a-lait), freshwater drum (gaspergou) and redear sunfish consumption to no more than one meal a month combined.	Limit largemouth bass, crappie (sac-a-lait), freshwater drum (gaspergou) and redear sunfish consumption to no more than four meals a month combined.	01/31/97; 05/29/03	03/10/04
Bayou Louis	Bayou Louis from its headwaters to its confluence with the Ouachita River including Lake Louis (Lovelace Lake)	Catahoula	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel); Limit consumption of other fish species to no more than one meal per month combined.	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel); Limit consumption of other fish species to no more than four meals per month combined.	05/29/03	09/04/02
Bayou Plaquemine Brule	Bayou Plaquemine Brule from its origin near Opelousas to its confluence with the Mermentau River	Acadia, St. Landry	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption. Limit largemouth bass, crappie (sac-a-lait) and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than one meal a month combined.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) to two meals per month; Limit largemouth bass, crappie (sac-a-lait) and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than four meals a month combined.	10/96; 05/29/03	04/11/02
Bayou Queue De Tortue	Bayou Queue de Tortue from its headwaters near Cankton, Louisiana to its confluence with the Mermentau River east of Lake Arthur, Louisiana.	Acadiana, Lafayette, Vermillion	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than one meal per month.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than four meals per month.	07/01/04	03/10/04
Big Alabama Bayou	The entire length of Big Alabama Bayou from the boat landing at Hwy 975 to near the Atchafalaya River Pilot Channel	Pointe Coupee, Iberville, St. Martin	Limit consumption of all species to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit consumption of all catfish species to no more than two meals a month; Limit consumption of all other species to four meals a month combined.	05/29/03	09/04/02

LOCATION	BOUNDARIES	PARISH	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSUMPTION		ISSUE DATE	LAST REVIEWED
			<i>Women of childbearing age and children under the age of 7</i>	<i>Other adults and children over the age of 7</i>		
Black Bayou Lake	Black Bayou Lake only	Caddo	Limit largemouth bass and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit largemouth bass and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	03/08/06	2005
Black Bayou Lake	Black Bayou Lake only	Ouachita	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to one meal a month.	05/29/03	09/04/02
Black Lake	Black Lake only	Natchitoches	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption; Limit largemouth bass, white bass, crappie (sac-a-lait) and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than one meal a month combined.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) to two meals per month; Limit largemouth bass, white bass, crappie (sac-a-lait) and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than four meals a month combined.	10/96; 05/29/03	09/04/02
Blind River	The Blind River only	St. James, Ascension, Livingston, St. John the Baptist	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than one meal per month.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than four meals a month.	04/23/98; 05/29/03	12/04/03
Boeuf River	The Boeuf River from the confluence with Lake Lafourche to the confluence with the Ouachita River	Caldwell, Franklin, Richland, Catahoula	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel); Limit consumption of other fish species to no more than one meal per month combined.	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel); Limit consumption of other fish species to no more than four meals a month combined.	05/29/03	03/10/04
Bogue Chitto River	The Bogue Chitto River from MS/LA state line to the Pearl River Navigation Canal	St. Tammany, Washington	Limit consumption of all bass species and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit consumption of all bass species and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) to no more than four meals a month combined.	08/96; 05/29/03	03/10/04
Bogue Falaya and Tchefuncte Rivers	The Bogue Falaya from its headwaters to its confluence with the Tchefuncte and the Tchefuncte from its headwaters to Lake Pontchartrain	Washington, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa	No largemouth bass or crappie (sac-a-lait); Limit freshwater drum (gaspergou), spotted bass and catfish consumption to no more than one meal a month combined	Limit largemouth bass and crappie (sac-a-lait) consumption to no more than two meals a month combined; Limit freshwater drum (gaspergou), spotted bass and catfish consumption to no more than four meals a month combined.	05/29/03	09/04/02
Calcasieu River Drainage Basin	Calcasieu River from Hwy 26 to the Saltwater Barrier north of Lake Charles, the West Fork Calcasieu River, Houston River, Hickory Creek, Beckwith Creek, English Bayou and Little River	Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, Allen	No largemouth bass, bowfin (choupique, grinnel) or freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption.	Limit largemouth bass, bowfin (choupique, grinnel) and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than two meals per month combined.	11/20/00; 05/29/03; 07/01/04	03/10/04

LOCATION	BOUNDARIES	PARISH	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSUMPTION		ISSUE DATE	LAST REVIEWED
			<i>Women of childbearing age and children under the age of 7</i>	<i>Other adults and children over the age of 7</i>		
Chicot Lake	Chicot Lake only	Evangeline	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption. Limit largemouth bass to no more than one meal per month.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than two meals a month; Limit largemouth bass consumption to no more than four meals per month	05/97; 05/29/03	09/04/02
Cheniere (Brake) Lake	Cheniere (Brake) Lake only	Ouachita	No consumption of bowfin (choupique, grinnel) and limit consumption of largemouth bass to no more than two meals per month.	Limit consumption of bowfin (choupique, grinnel) to no more than two meals a month; Limit consumption of largemouth bass to no more than four meals per month.	07/01/04	03/10/04
Corney Lake	Corney Lake only	Claiborne	Limit largemouth bass or bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit largemouth bass or bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	05/29/03	09/04/02
Grand Bayou Reservoir	John K. Kelley-Grand Bayou Reservoir	Red River	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption. Limit largemouth bass consumption to no more than one meal per month.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) and largemouth bass consumption to two meals per month.	05/29/03	09/04/02
Gulf of Mexico	Gulf of Mexico waters off of all coastal parishes	Coastal Parishes	No consumption of king mackerel; Limit cobia, blackfin tuna and greater amberjack consumption to no more than one meal per month.	No consumption of king mackerel greater than 39 inches in total length; Limit consumption of king mackerel 39 inches or less in total length to no more than two meals per month; Limit consumption of cobia, blackfin tuna and greater amberjack to no more than four meals per month combined.	09/04/97; 03/08/06	2005
Henderson Lake Area	Henderson Lake, Lake Bigneux and all waters within the area bounded on the north by the St. Landry/St. Martin Parish line, on the east by the West Atchafalaya River levee, on the south by Hwy 3177 and on the west by the West Atchafalaya Basin levee	St. Martin	Limit largemouth bass, crappie (sac-a-lait) and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than one meal per month.	Limit largemouth bass, crappie (sac-a-lait) and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	01/31/96; 05/29/03	12/04/03

LOCATION	BOUNDARIES	PARISH	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSUMPTION		ISSUE DATE	LAST REVIEWED
			<i>Women of childbearing age and children under the age of 7</i>	<i>Other adults and children over the age of 7</i>		
I-10 Canal and Work Canal	The canal that is between the I-10 bridges (between Whiskey Bay and Ramah) and the canal known as Work Canal, which runs north to south and intersects the I-10 Canal.	Iberville	Limit largemouth bass, black crappie and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit largemouth bass, black crappie, bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	07/01/04	03/10/04
Iatt Lake	Iatt Lake only	Grant	Limit largemouth bass and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit largemouth bass and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	03/08/06	2005
Ivan Lake	Ivan Lake only	Bossier	No consumption of bowfin (choupique, grinnel). Limit consumption of largemouth bass to no more than one meal per month.	Limit consumption of bowfin (choupique, grinnel) to no more than two meals a month; Limit consumption of largemouth bass to no more than four meals a month.	11/20/00; 05/29/03	09/04/02
Kepler Creek Lake	Kepler Creek Lake only	Bienville	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to one meal per month.	05/29/03	09/04/02
Lake Vernon	Lake Vernon only	Vernon	Limit largemouth bass, flathead catfish, redear and bluegill sunfish (breem) consumption to no more than one meal a month.	Limit largemouth bass, flathead catfish, redear and bluegill sunfish (breem) consumption to no more than four meals a month combined.	03/08/06	2005
Lake Bistineau	Lake Bistineau only	Webster, Bossier, Bienville	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than one meal per month.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than four meals per month.	08/97; 05/29/03	09/04/02
Little River / Catahoula Lake Area	Catahoula Lake, Little River, Old River, Black River, Saline Lake, Larto Lake (Saline-Larto Complex), Shad Lake and Associated Water Bodies	Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides	No largemouth bass, white bass, freshwater drum (gaspergou), flathead catfish or bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption; Limit white crappie consumption to no more than two meals per month combined.	Limit largemouth bass, white bass, freshwater drum (gaspergou), flathead catfish and bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than two meals per month; Limit white crappie consumption to no more than four meals a month combined.	11/20/00; 05/29/03	03/10/04
Ouachita River	LA/ARK border to the confluence of the Tensas River including any lakes that are inside the levee system or within the Ouachita River flood plain	Ouachita, Union, Morehouse, Caldwell, Catahoula	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel); Limit consumption of other fish species to no more than one meal per month combined.	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel); Limit consumption of other fish species to no more than four meals per month combined.	07/92; 05/29/03	03/10/04

LOCATION	BOUNDARIES	PARISH	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSUMPTION		ISSUE DATE	LAST REVIEWED
			<i>Women of childbearing age and children under the age of 7</i>	<i>Other adults and children over the age of 7</i>		
Pearl River	The entire length of the Pearl River	St. Tammany, Washington	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption. Limit bass, bigmouth buffalo and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than one meal per month combined.	No bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption; Limit bass, bigmouth buffalo and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	01/31/97; 05/29/03	03/10/04
Seventh Ward Canal	The Seventh Ward Canal (southwest of Abbeville)	Vermilion	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel), flathead catfish, white crappie (sac-a-lait) and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel), flathead catfish, white crappie (sac-a-lait) and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	07/97; 05/29/03	03/10/04
Tangipahoa River	The Tangipahoa River from the LA/MS state line to Lake Pontchartrain	Tangipahoa	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel), flathead catfish, large-mouth bass, spotted bass and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel), flathead catfish, large-mouth bass, spotted bass and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	05/29/03	09/04/02
Tew Lake	Tew Lake only	Catahoula	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than one meal per month.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than four meals per month.	07/01/04	12/04/03
Tickfaw River Area	The Tickfaw River (from MS/LA state line to Lake Maurepas), the Blood River, Natalbany River, Lizard Creek, and Ponchatoula Creek	St. Helena, Tangipahoa, Livingston	Limit freshwater drum (gaspergou), largemouth bass, bowfin (choupique, grinnel) and white crappie (sac-a-lait) consumption to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit freshwater drum (gaspergou), largemouth bass, bowfin (choupique, grinnel) and white crappie (sac-a-lait) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	07/08/02; 05/29/03	11/19/01
Toledo Bend Reservoir	The entire reservoir	Desoto, Sabine	No consumption of bowfin (choupique, grinnel). Limit consumption of largemouth bass and freshwater drum (gaspergou) to no more than one meal per month combined.	Limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) consumption to no more than two meals per month combined; Limit largemouth bass and freshwater drum (gaspergou) consumption to no more than four meals per month combined.	07/19/01; 05/29/03	09/04/02

LOUISIANA HEALTH/FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES (OTHER CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS)					
LOCATION	AREA	PARISH	FISH & SHELLFISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES	POLLUTANT	DATES
Bayou d'Inde	6 miles	Calcasieu, Cameron	Fish/shellfish consumption of no more than 2 meals a month; no swimming, water sports & contact with bottom sediments	HCb, HCBd, PCBs	(issued 1/87; reviewed 4/92, 10/94 and 7/99)
Capitol Lake	0.12 miles	East Baton Rouge	No fish consumption; Sediment contamination	PCBs	(issued 8/83; reviewed 11/94)
Devil's Swamp, Devil's Swamp Lake, Bayou Baton Rouge	7 sq. miles	East Baton Rouge	Fish consumption of no more than 2 meals a month, no water contact sports, no Swimming	HCb, HCBd, PCBs, lead, mercury, arsenic	(issued 10/87; expanded advisory area 7/93)
Sibley Lake	3.4 sq. miles	Natchitoches	Instructions on proper fish trimming, cleaning and cooking must be followed. Select one of the two options: large-mouth bass or crappie- 1 meal/week; or channel catfish, stripped bass- 1 meal/month. Do not eat shad, gar or carp.	PCBs	(issued 2/89, reviewed 6/94, revised 1/96, reviewed 3/17/00)
Wham Brake near Swartz	7.2 sq. miles	Ouachita, Morehouse	No fish consumption	Dioxin	(issued 11/87; reviewed 3/94, 11/96, and 11/01)
Bayou Lafourche (Hwy 80 overpass to I-20)	2 miles	Ouachita, Richland	Fish consumption of all species of no more than 2 meals per month	Dioxin	(issued 3/94; revised 11/96, reviewed 11/01)
LOCATION	AREA	PARISH	INFORMATIONAL HEALTH ADVISORIES	POLLUTANT	DATES
Calcasieu Estuary	37 miles	Calcasieu, Cameron	Long term fish consumption may cause health risks	HCb, HCBd, PCBs	(issued 4/92; reviewed 10/94)
Bayou Olsen at Lake Charles	0.5 miles	Calcasieu	Avoid sediment contact, fish/shellfish consumption limits	Chloroform, misc.chemicals	(issued 1/89, reviewed 10/94)
Tensas River	83 miles	Franklin, Tensas, Madison, Richland	Long-term fish consumption may cause health risk	DDT, Toxaphene	(issued 2/92)
Bayou Bonfouca, Slidell	7 miles	St. Tammany	No swimming or sediment contact	Creosote	(issued 11/87); (revised 12/98)

LOUISIANA ARTIFICIAL REEF PROGRAM

Fisheries scientists have long recognized that, on the continental shelf of the Gulf of Mexico, oil and gas platforms provided hard substrate, to which various marine organisms quickly attached. The resulting food chain formation served to attract many fish species, just as occurs on natural reefs.

Oil and gas platforms are the destination of more than 70 percent of all recreational offshore fishing trips originating in Louisiana.

The Louisiana Artificial Reef Program was established in 1986 to offset the loss of recreational and commercial fishing opportunities associated with the removal of offshore oil and gas platforms.

To date, the Artificial Reef Program has constructed 61 offshore reefs utilizing the components of 256 oil and gas structures. In addition, the program has created the world's largest artificial reef from the Freeport sulphur mine located seven miles south of Grand Isle. The reef is in approximately 50 feet of water and has 30 feet of clearance. The program has also deployed 40 armored personnel carriers and one offshore tug. Through the cooperation of civic groups, the department has created 22 inshore reefs composed of shell, limestone and reef balls.

The coordinates for the deployed structures and materials can be found on the LDWF web site at: <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/fishing/programs/habitat/artificialreef.cfm> or obtained by calling 225-765-2375.



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